

What It Takes to Get a Thanksgiving Meal to a Family in Need P.28 Fair Food P.48 Robert Reyes P.54

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE

NOVEMBER 27, 2015
VOLUME 35, NUMBER 13
austinchronicle.com

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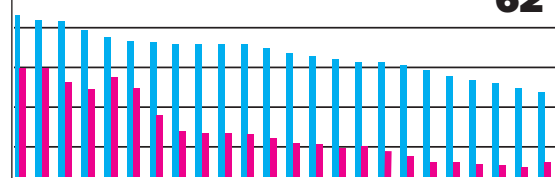
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FEEDBACK LETTERS & COMMENTS



MAKE GOOD ON PROMISES

Dear Editor,

As I read articles about the Syrian refugee situation and Greg Abbott's opposition to welcoming them ["No Shelter Here," News, Nov. 20], I cannot help but to think of another issue regarding the United States' improper handling of refugees. I am referring to the Iraqi and Afghan translators who were promised visas in compensation for their valuable help to the American military. More than 1,000 have been

killed since then. Most of them, including their families, are endangered and are unable to secure other jobs since they are constantly targeted in their communities. A very small amount of these applications have resulted in visas for these translators; most of them are stuck in bureaucratic processes and delays which keep these allies in very dangerous situations in the meantime. How is it that more isn't done for these people who have done so much for Americans? These people have risked their lives for us, and worked alongside U.S. troops,

which are their main supporters in facilitating this process and providing them the safety they were promised. I do not mean to take away importance from the Syrian refugee situation, but this matter should not be pushed aside as we have depended on these people in our war-time efforts, and our treatment of them has only sent the message that we are not good friends and are not good for our promises. How can we expect help in the future?

Maria F. Gonzalez

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LEGACY IS HISTORY

Dear Editor,

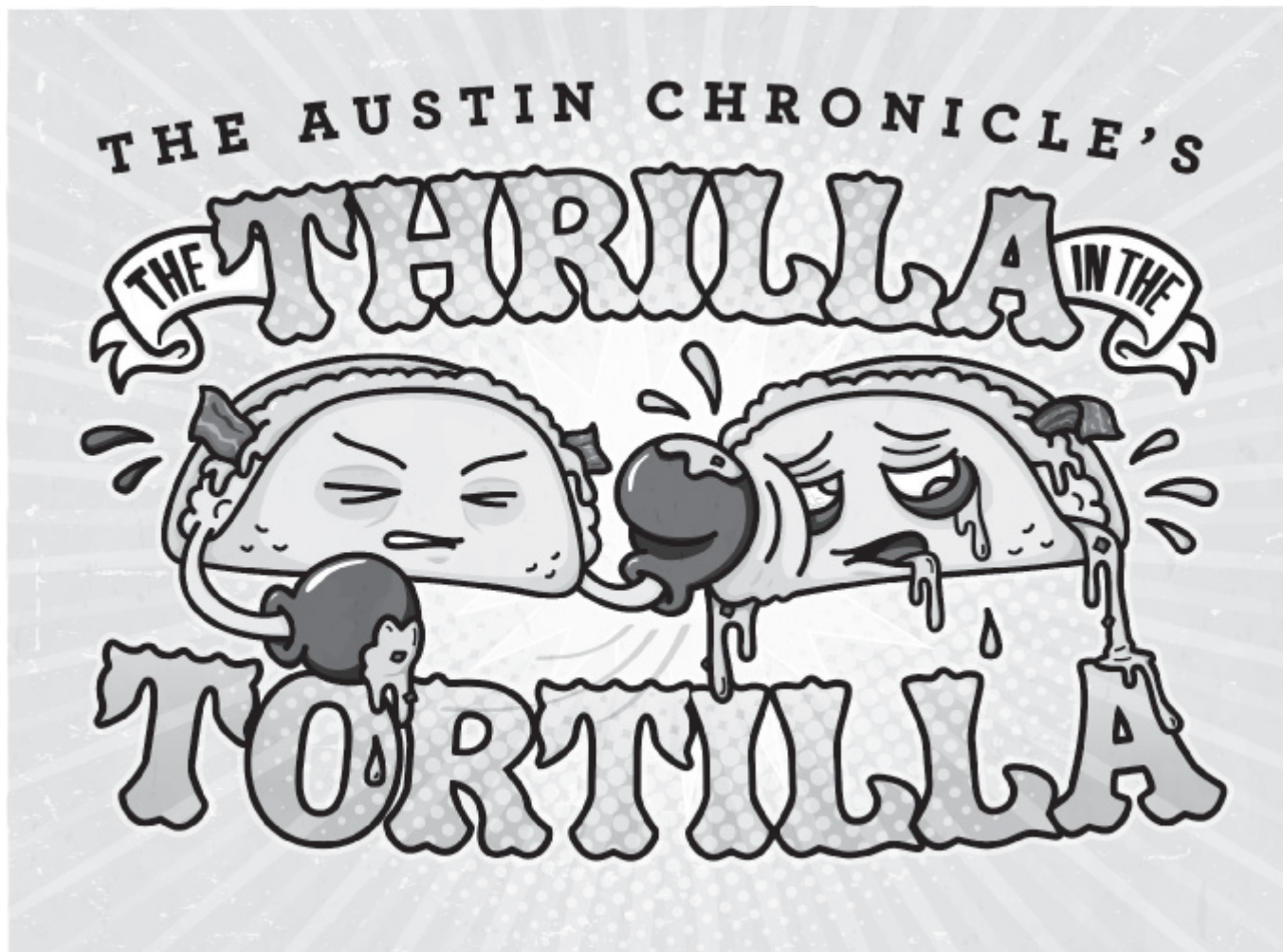
Sadly I am reading your article "Tempers Flare as AISD Board Tackles Confederate Legacy" [News, Nov. 13]. Of course Austin has a Confederate legacy – that part is history.

Trustees Gordon and Mathias feel a moral imperative to change that. The last political moral imperative I remember was Prohibition. Is this group going to prohibit Austin's history? How about its culture, cuisine, and music? Does this group want those white-washed also?

How sad that these two rabid racists (they are using race to their personal advantage) have anything to do with the education of children.

Elizabeth N. Branigan

CONTINUED ON P.10





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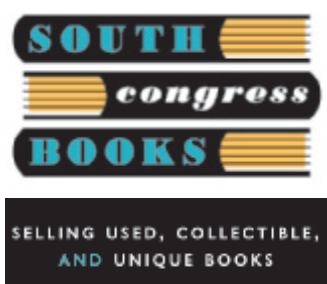
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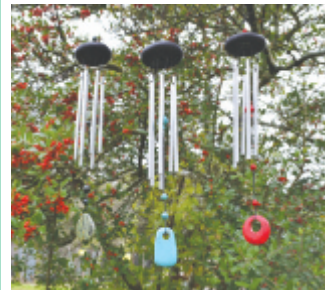
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MASTER PLAN OF ENCROACHMENT

Dear Editor,

So now we have CodeNEXT to plan new developments that Austin needs ["CodeNEXT Prepares to Rewrite Austin," News, Nov. 13]. City plans we had before were Imagine Austin, Smart Growth, New Urbanism, Austin Tomorrow, and Urban Renewal. I would be interested in this new code if the planners were mostly native Austinites and it included affordable housing for longtime, low-income residents who have been displaced because of gentrification.

Starting about 1900, the city pushed us out of our Old West Downtown Mexican neighborhood. And then with the 1928 Master Plan of segregation we were pushed to East Austin. Because of racism we were red-lined and denied bank loans and were unable to fix up our houses, buy property, or start our own businesses in East Austin. In the meantime, outside investors were buying up all the land.

In the late Nineties East Austin activists begged the City Council and Planning Commission to put in place ways to prevent gentrification. The city did the very opposite and changed the zoning to commercial so that outside businesses and people can come in, take over, and push us out of our own neighborhood! All the redevelopment plans were aimed at a market that wasn't the longtime residents.

Neighborhood plans should have been made only by longtime residents. Of course we didn't want high-density urban projects

that would cause more traffic and pollution that would harm our children and the environment. To me, community revitalization is an oxymoron because what it really does is kill the community.

This ongoing master plan of encroachment and land grab is an abomination and must stop. In the 19th century this was called Manifest Destiny; today we call it gentrification and cultural genocide.

Anita Quintanilla

SIN IS NOT FUN

Dear Editor,

"Making the Most of EAST" [Arts & Culture, Nov. 20] was on target about some of the challenges and enjoyments of the unique experience that is EAST. However, the statement "And like any good Christian, don't forget how fun it is to sin" was an unnecessary comment that does not reflect EAST and is insulting, derogatory, and offensive to Christians who take their life with Christ seriously. Jesus paid a high price and died a horrific death to provide forgiveness for sin, and "good Christians" do not take His sacrifice lightly. Our commitment to our relationship with Christ gives us plenty of freedom to enjoy life without crossing the line into activity that is ultimately detrimental for us and displeasing to Him. Sin is not fun to "good Christians" who love Jesus – it is heartbreaking.

Karole Fedrick

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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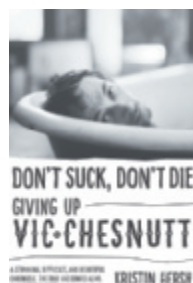
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NEWS



QUOTE of the WEEK

"I think it is important for me to lift Austin's lamp to the rest of the world."

— Mayor Steve Adler, responding to state directives that Texas not participate in the resettlement of Syrian refugees

HEADLINES

CITY COUNCIL IS heading into the stretch for 2015, with only two more regularly scheduled meetings before the end of the year, and a brief special-called meeting for Tuesday, Dec. 3, to consider the hiring of a consumer advocate for **Austin Energy** residential customers. See "Council: Choosing Sides," p.16.

THE TEXAS STATE Board of Education rejected two proposals last week that help would ensure accuracy in textbooks — a measure requiring books get fact-checked by a panel of university professors and another that would make sure the majority of citizen book reviewers meet certain education and teaching experience criteria. Considering the right-wing stacked SBOE has come under fire for inaccurate and politicized portrayals of history, including slavery, the Civil War, and Islam, the rejection is a lost opportunity for much-needed improvement.

WHAT GOES UP must come down cleanly: Last week Council adopted new limits on how much **construction and demolition waste** can go in the **dump**. Starting Oct. 1, 2016 for new construction over **5,000 square feet**, and Oct. 1, 2019 for any commercial demolition, projects will be limited to **2.5 pounds per square foot**, or must divert at least 50% of material to another use.

AUSTIN ENERGY IS undergoing a sudden shift in top management: A few days after general manager **Larry Weis** announced he would be resigning to accept the same position at **Seattle City Light**, chief operating officer **Cheryl Mele** (who had been considered a potential replacement for Weis) said she would be leaving after 24 years at the city to become COO for the **Electric Reliability Council of Texas**.

AISD CAN CHANGE the name of **Robert E. Lee Elementary**. On Nov. 23, the board of trustees amended its policy on naming campuses: This clears the way for Superintendent **Paul Cruz** to retitlize any school if there is enough community pressure, starting with Lee.

TED CRUZ HAS become this month's designated challenger to GOP presidential front-runner **Donald Trump**, with the latest **Quinnipiac** poll having them in a statistical tie in Iowa (Trump 25%, Cruz 23%). However, Trump may have re-enforced his increasingly frightening radical rump after saying a **Black Lives Matter** protester at a recent campaign event deserved to be "roughed up."

IN "OIL-AND-GAS FOXES guarding the ecological hen house" news, Gov. **Greg Abbott** has named Dallas oil billionaire **Kelcy Warren** as one of four new appointees to the **Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission**. Warren's firm **Energy Transfer Partners** wants to put the 143-mile **Trans-Pecos Pipeline** through pristine wilderness including the commission-run **Chinati Mountains State Natural Area**.



JOHN ANDERSON

Workers Defense Project concluded a three-day pilgrimage from the **T. Don Hutto Detention Center** in Taylor, Texas, to the **Governor's Mansion** in Austin on Saturday, Nov. 21. The pilgrimage was in protest of the lawsuit filed by Texas and 26 other states to prevent President Obama's executive action on immigration reform from taking effect.

Thanksgiving Reflections

THE POLITICAL SCENE IS AS COMPLEX AS U.S. HISTORY

In the spirit of the season, I'm giving thanks for Nate Silver, the statistics guru of FiveThirtyEight.com, who posted a helpful piece Monday headlined, "Dear Media, Stop Freaking Out About Donald Trump's Polls." Silver was a *New York Times* voice of sanity throughout the 2012 campaign season, following the actual presidential campaign dynamics instead of the clickbait Frenzy of the Day. Responding to the current centrist media anxiety that "President Trump" is a real possibility (Stephen Colbert had a funny bit choking on the phrase), Silver pointed out that Trump's actual chances of winning are really quite slim.

"Right now, he has 25 to 30 percent of the vote in polls among the roughly 25 percent

of Americans who identify as Republican," wrote Silver. "That's something like 6 to 8 percent of the electorate overall, or about the same share of people who think the Apollo moon landings were faked." Moreover, he points out, this early in the 2016 cycle the polling is quite superficial and speculative, and most voters aren't even paying much attention. (Hard to believe, I know, for those of us immersed in this stuff 24/7, an occupational hazard.) Considering the weakness of

the available early data and the actual history of major party nominations, always-the-statistician Silver concludes, "For my money, that adds up to Trump's chances being higher than 0 but (considerably) less than 20 percent."

POINT
AUSTIN
BY
MICHAEL
KING

CONJURING DEMONS

Nevertheless, Trump's impact this political season is not confined to his actual chances of election. Until his bombast and naked racism descended onto the media scene, the national Republican Party had unevenly inched toward some kind of desperate attempt to accommodate if not woo minority voters. Witness Marco Rubio's 2013 Senate sponsorship of a (feeble and quite hopeless) bipartisan gesture at immigration reform. In the wake of Trump's successful appeal to the lower depths of the GOP base, Rubio and most of the competitors have scuttled to similar levels; those who haven't (Jeb Bush, John Kasich) have suffered the polling consequences from those who believe only Trump can save them from the invading hordes.

On the one hand, that makes the entire group less electable nationally, even allow-

CONTINUED ON P.14

ONLINE // PHOTO GALLERIES: WORKERS DEFENSE MARCH AND ANTI-REFUGEE PROTEST | AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/NEWS



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11a-5p**



POINT AUSTIN CONTINUED FROM P.12

ing for the fact that presidential elections are decided not by popular vote, but state electors. On the other hand, Trump's nativist venom, beginning with his first denunciations of imaginary Mexican "rapists and murderers," has opened wide the public discourse to the kind of language (and actions) that actively promotes racism in all its forms. A selection of the most publicized incidents: a vandalized mosque in Pflugerville; armed and masked white "protesters" outside an Irving mosque; and of course the public and official backlash against Syrian refugees in the wake of the (nonrefugee) Paris terrorist attacks.

So I'm also thankful this week for the response of Austin Mayor Steve Adler in the wake of the national panic and Gov. Greg Abbott's shameful attempts to block any resettlement of refugees from the Syrian war. Adler wrote in the Texas Tribune (and reiterated in a White House conference call) that we have a "moral imperative" to assist those fleeing "horrific conditions," and to speak out against the ridiculous spasm of xenophobia that sadly recalls the treatment of Jewish refugees and Japanese Americans during World War II.

WHAT HISTORY TEACHES

Adler noted that the number of Syrian refugees bound for Austin is so small (three during the last two years, none expected in 2016) that the entire controversy is overblown and essentially symbolic. (That makes even more shameful last week's U.S. House action to add new obstacles to refugee security checks.) Beyond a handful of women and children across the country, we haven't been admitting Syrian (or Iraqi) refugees, and we aren't going to do so going forward. Meanwhile, the French government, actually reeling from the Paris attacks, announced its invitation to another 30,000 Syrian refugees. Wouldn't the French be justified in denouncing us all as "Hot Dog-Eating Surrender Monkeys"?

All this said, I'm thankful as well that the holiday prompts us to recall our actual history as a nation of immigrants. My grandparents, my father, and many of my relatives fled warfare and privation to find safety, livelihoods, and community in this country; how ungrateful would I be to allow Greg Abbott to speak for me, and turn my back on those fleeing war, terrorism, and privation in this generation? And how blind and unfeeling would we all be, as we gather this week here and elsewhere with our families, not to recall the country's founding – not just in immigration and thanksgiving, but in blood, and the terrible history of genocidal war against indigenous people?

May we give thanks for all that we have received. But may we also reflect on the complicated and mixed history of our times and our national story. May we welcome the stranger, and may we try to live by the best of our traditions, rather than act out of our worst. ■

A Tale of Two Processes

COUNCIL SHOOTS FROM THE HIP, PROMISES BETTER LATER

It was not **City Council's** finest hour Thursday, as they shoved through a compromise ordinance easing restrictions on building **accessory dwelling units** (ADUs) – mostly to the good – but in such a clumsy fashion, and with such clumsy late amendments, as to virtually epitomize the bad planning practices that city leaders say they're trying to get away from. Meanwhile in a thunderbolt of irony, city planning leaders were gathered that same day across town to talk about the **CodeNEXT** process to rewrite the **Land Development Code**, largely designed to avoid City Council making the kinds of decisions they were currently making, and instituting the sort of code they were currently instituting.

Just to be clear, "**granny flats**" were already allowed in every residential zoning category throughout the city, and most of the provisions in the new ordinance which will make it easier to build them were supported, and in fact initiated, by the neighborhood associations. The major point of contention remaining on Thursday concerned **parking requirements**: Should each secondary unit be required to have one off-street parking space, or none? Everywhere in the city, or in certain neighborhoods, or in accordance with pre-existing neighborhood plans? What Council came up with Thursday, in their infinite ... whatever ... is this:

- They took all the SF-2 properties – a large chunk of all the residential properties in the city, including primarily the wealthier outlying western and southern precincts – and exempted them from the ordinance altogether. This was the grand compromise between **Mayor Steve Adler** and CM **Greg Casar**, after it became clear that Council could not muster six votes for pushing ADUs into Allendale and Slaughter Lane.
- They lifted parking requirements for ADUs on all properties within a quarter mile of an "activity corridor," as defined in **Imagine**

Austin, and allowed that provision to override existing zoning and neighborhood plans. Now, that's the sort of compromise that sounds good when you're shooting from the hip on the dais, but it's exactly the sort of broad-brush solution that the planners across town were bemoaning, and promising wouldn't happen under the new way of doing things. The promise at CodeNEXT was for "fine-grained" solutions: block-by-block, lot-by-lot standards instead of one-size-fits-all dictates.

In taking those actions, Mayor Adler and his Council not only blew up over a year of public process – the commission and Council Committee process he so often lauds in theory – in favor of provisions first proposed out of the blue on the day of the meeting. They also created a blanket standard, in the quarter-mile provision, that produces an odd new patchwork of zoning overlays, and clearly not a "best practices" zoning map.

For example, the house where I live, just over a quarter-mile from an activity corridor, will still be required to provide a parking space for an ADU, though in reality it wouldn't really need one, because **on-street parking** is readily available in the immediate area. My neighbors a few doors down, in identical conditions, will be exempt from that requirement (which is fine, if totally arbitrary) – but so will properties in virtually every area of town where on-street parking is a problem, because such areas lie along activity corridors.

Now, I'm not a big fan of parking requirements – I tend to think they should be reduced in every category of zoning through most of the city – but it's obvious that conditions differ, and need to be addressed differently, in different areas. (Duh!) So I'm okay with Council deciding that only 20% of my neighborhood is going to have parking required for every new unit going forward. But I'm not

okay with them deciding, on the dais, with no prior consideration, that that area should be an arbitrary rectangle in the middle of the neighborhood, rather than, for instance, in the blocks around the local public school, where there's currently no available street parking, and cars are double-parked for hours at a time. Those are just the sort of fine-grained considerations that are already included in existing neighborhood plans, but were absent from the Council dais on Thursday.

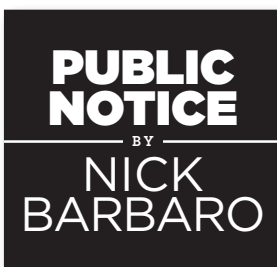
The result is a not-awful ordinance. But it was an ugly process, and a depressingly familiar example of this City Council doing its planning business in the bad old way, while giving only lip service to a new day. □

Closures and Celebrations: The Austin Animal Center and Recycle & Reuse Drop-off Center will be closed Thanksgiving Day, and all city libraries, recreation centers, nature centers, cultural centers, and museums will be closed Thursday and Friday. On the other hand, the **ThunderCloud Subs 25th Annual Turkey Trot** (www.thundercloud.com/turkey-trot) takes place Thanksgiving morning at the Long Center, **UT football** has their home finale hosting Texas Tech that day at 6:30pm, and the **Chuy's Children Giving to Children Parade** is Saturday, Nov. 28, beginning at 11am at the State Capitol. And then ... □

Join the Global Climate March. On Sunday, Nov. 29, the day before the Paris Climate Summit, people will gather on the State Capitol grounds to demand that our global and local leaders take action on climate change, climate justice, and environmental racism. Speakers, organizational tables, kids' activities, music, and a march down Congress Avenue. Starts at 1pm; march at 2:30pm. See www.gcmaustin.com for details, or www.globalclimatemarch.org/en for a broader view. □

The **Foundation Communities Holiday Assistance Program** helps make the season a little brighter for residents who struggle to fulfill their holiday wish lists on their own. You or your team could **sponsor a family** (complete a sponsor form by Friday, Dec. 4); donate gift items like books, toys, gift cards, canned goods, or school supplies to the **Holiday Drive** for residents; or donate money online. See www.foundcom.org for info. □

Attention nonprofits and public service groups: Sign up to be a part of the **Austin Chronicle wish lists** program. Send organization name, contact name, phone number, and email address to: wishlist@austinchronicle.com or 512/454-5766. Deadline: December 2. ■



CIVICS 101 DUTY NOW FOR THE FUTURE

THURSDAY 11/26

THUNDERCLOUD SUBS TURKEY TROT The 25th annual Turkey Trot benefits nonprofit Caritas. Run the 5-mile family run, a 1-mile walk, and put the kids to work in the Stepping Stone School Kids' K. 7:30am. Wheelchair start at 9:25am. Long Center for Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside. \$10-35. www.thundercloud.com.

SATURDAY 11/28

CHUY'S CHILDREN GIVING TO CHILDREN Chuy's annual holiday parade. Benefits Operation Blue Santa. 11am. Texas State Capitol. Bring a toy for Operation Blue Santa. www.chuysparade.com.

SUNDAY 11/29

AFTERNOON IN THE GARDEN: COLLECTING PLANTS, A PRESSING ACTIVITY The folks at Zilker show you how to collect and press plants in your own garden. 1-4pm. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs. \$2, \$1 kids. www.fb.com/events/1519345524978240.

MONDAY 11/30

WORLD DAY OF CITIES FOR LIFE VIGIL Faith-based groups across the world protest the death penalty. 7-8:30pm. City Hall, 301 W. Second. Free.

POLICE BODY-WORN CAMERA PROGRAM A meeting hosted by the Austin Police Dept. to "share highlights of our planned policy, and answer questions." 6:30-8pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 2nd Floor, Rm. 1 & 2.

WEDNESDAY 12/02

THE NOTORIOUS RBG BALL Celebrate the "glorious uterus" and everyone's favorite Supreme Court justice with a night of music by ¿Qué Pasa?, KB the Boo Bonic, and a Moving Panoramas side project. Planned Parenthood will be on hand to talk sexual health, reproductive rights, and services available at their clinics. Free with stamp from the BossBabesATX event earlier today. 10pm. Spider House Ballroom, 2906 Fruth. \$7. www.fb.com/events/1670940016519474.

THE WANTED 18 Animated documentary about Palestinians who started a small local dairy, but had to hide their 18 dairy cows when they were declared a "threat to the national security of Israel." Free. 6:30pm; director Q&A 8:30pm. Asian American Resource Center, 8401 Cameron Rd.

THURSDAY 12/03

TALLER DE INMIGRACION Weekly free workshop on Deferred Action programs, and immigrants' rights when stopped or arrested. 7-9pm. Workers Defense Project, 5604 Manor Rd. www.workersdefense.org.

EIGHTH ANNUAL AUSTIN "GREEN" HOLIDAY PARTY Join 13 different local environmental groups for the green party of the year. Organic buffet, live music by Wino Vino, dancing, socializing, and beer from Black Star Co-op. \$30. 6-10pm. Barr Mansion, 10463 Sprinkle Rd. www.earthdayaustin.com.



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Council: Choosing Sides

FAULT LINES ON ADUs BECOME CLEAR

Last Thursday's **City Council** headline item was "**accessory dwelling units**" – colloquially known as "granny flats" – and specifically, the question was whether to loosen the restrictions on building these small secondary apartments on otherwise single-family residential lots. Following invited public testimony and a lengthy dais discussion, the primary zoning limitations – allowable lot sizes and on-site parking requirements, with some related restrictions – were loosened sufficiently (at least near "transit corridors") to facilitate ADUs on an estimated 9,000 residential lots. In theory, the changes should make it easier (and cheaper) for homeowners to build secondary units, making an incremental dent in the urgent citywide need for additional housing.

Initially, the proposal (carried primarily by District 4 Council Member **Greg Casar**, who chairs the Planning and Neighborhoods Committee) would have covered much more of the city and as many as 60,000 residential lots – but Mayor **Steve Adler** persuaded Casar to restrict the initial ordinance (via zoning categories) to the smaller range. That compromise was the version Council approved, by a 7-4 majority.

The immediate effect is likely to be quite modest, at least in terms of the "100,000 units" that Adler has repeatedly described as needed for the city over the next 10 years (while simultaneously preserving another 35,000 units). Council did leave open the possibility that the **CodeNEXT** process (the ongoing rewrite of the city's land-use ordinances planned to reach completion sometime next year) would allow for greater latitude toward ADUs and encompass more neighborhoods. But CodeNEXT might also foreclose more ADUs – and considering this Council's instinct for delay, and how long it's taken to get this far (the public hearing

on the matter took place in June), I wouldn't hope (or fear, if that's your inclination) that ADUs will be popping up all over Austin anytime soon.

Nevertheless, the debate was interesting in what it reflected about the perspectives of the council members, and of the developing fault lines on the dais, particularly over land use. Nearly three hours into the occasionally heated discussion, CM **Delia Garza** considered the choices. "You know, for me," she said, "this isn't 'the neighborhoods' against 'urbanists.'" Garza said her own position isn't particularly ideological, and that she had found things to agree with from all of the invited witnesses – pro and con – who had testified earlier that afternoon. But she balked at an amendment proposed by Mayor Pro Tem **Kathie Tovo** that would have allowed neighborhood associations to "opt out" of the ordinance, and effectively forbid their neighbors to build an accessory dwelling, either for family members or renters. "What makes sense logically," Garza said, "is if a majority of a neighborhood does not want ADUs, then the majority of the neighborhood won't build ADUs."

Garza's viewpoint prevailed on Tovo's amendment – as did the overall Adler/Casar compromise – joined by CMs **Sabino "Pio" Renteria**, **Don Zimmerman**, **Ellen Troxclair**, and **Sheri Gallo**. The four nay votes were Tovo, **Ora Houston**, **Ann Kitchen**, and **Leslie Pool**, each of whom voiced variations on "protecting the neighborhoods," from either additional density or presumed inadequacies in the "process" (i.e., defer to the NAs, to the boards and commissions, or wait for CodeNEXT). The ayes were a seemingly unlikely (and perhaps temporary) alliance among progressive advocates for more housing options (Adler, Garza, Casar, Renteria) and the conservative defenders of prop-

erty rights (Zimmerman, Troxclair), with Gallo somewhere in the middle. On land use, at least, that might come to represent an ongoing division on the dais.

It's more complicated than that, of course, and Renteria was eloquent on his own neighborhood and his belief that the construction of ADUs, even under current regulations, had allowed families to stay in homes they would otherwise have vacated because of property taxes, and generated neighborhood diversification and economic development. Houston countered that her experience was the opposite – that housing affordability solutions promised by the city had instead driven up District 1 prices and driven out original homeowners. ADU proponents conceded that in and of themselves, the new units would not drive down prices, but insisted they should create more housing options across the city by at least becoming among the cheapest options in whatever neighborhoods they might land. Invited witness **Stuart Hersh** had recounted the history of ADU bans as, in part, the heritage of **Jim Crow laws**, and told Council, "Supply is not the only answer [for affordability], but it's part of the answer."

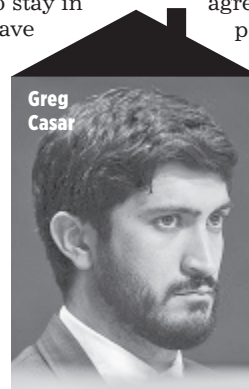
Going forward, it will be interesting to see if the alliances hold. On even more contentious matters like **short-term rentals**, there's a different balance – and the ADU ordinance dutifully includes redundant restrictions on STRs. Later in the evening, a 10-1 majority endorsed stringent requirements for "on-site" affordable housing (instead of fees-in-lieu) in **planned unit developments** – that are quite likely to make PUDs and any residential units they might add to the urban mix even rarer than they are now. Council

also voted to establish three new **home-stead preservation districts** – whether the tax increment reinvesting mechanisms they require (still not in working order for the existing **Eastside HPD**) will ever be in place, remains an open question. In other actions, Council:

- Approved an in-kind co-development agreement with the nonprofit transportation think tank **Rocky Mountain Institute** for a multi-year "**mobility transformation**" program, aimed at sustainable, multimodal mobility, over strenuous opposition from Zimmerman that Council was selecting a particular nonprofit to "make city policy." That characterization was strongly rejected by Mobility Committee Chair Kitchen, who noted that the agreement continues longstanding city policy – indeed, that's why RMI selected Austin – and is consistent with already approved Transportation Department budget priorities.
- Approved **free swimming passes** for all city residents 80 years or older (some council members had objected to the current practice of only awarding free passes to particular residents honored for their advocacy of parks or pools). That passed 10-1, and you can guess the lone "nay."

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Dec. 10, although a special called meeting has been scheduled for 9am, Dec. 3, to continue consideration of the appointment of a consumer advocate for **Austin Energy** residential customers – Council requested more outreach to additional vendors. The meeting coincides with the meeting of Council's committee of the whole on Austin Energy. For updates, follow the Daily News online at austinchronicle.com.

– Michael King



JANA BIRCHUM

JOHN ANDERSON



JOHN ANDERSON

Mayor Welcomes Refugees

Writing in the Texas Tribune Nov. 20 ("Syrian refugees are welcome in Austin," TribTalk), Mayor **Steve Adler** cited the Emma Lazarus poem on the Statue of Liberty ("Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me, / I lift my lamp beside the golden door!") and said that he welcomes Syrian refugees to Austin "in a way that protects both our safety and values." Adler noted that state and local officials have no authority on refugees, but that Syrians are subjected to stringent security screening and that most of those few already admitted are women and children. He said he has joined more than 100 U.S. mayors in endorsing the statement by **Cities United for Immigration Action**: "Our hearts go out to the people of Paris and those impacted by these senseless acts of violence. The American values of freedom and opportunity define who we are as a country, and to extend that promise to Syrian families seeking refuge from the threat of terror is imperative. As municipal leaders, we seek always to protect our communities, while we honor the diversity and growth

of our cities and counties. The United States has a robust screening and background check system that ensures our safety and security is protected, as we welcome those in need of refuge onto our shores." The mayor concluded: "I think it is important for me to lift Austin's lamp to the rest of the world. If America is to be a world leader – and Austin the shining city that it is – requires us to defend our values when it is hard – not just when it is easy."

Adler took part in a White House media conference call Monday afternoon, joining former Secretary of State **Madeleine Albright**, Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security **Alejandro Mayorkas**, and Detroit Mayor **Mike Duggan** in defense of the Obama Administration's position on resettling Syrian refugees. Adler reiterated his welcome, calling it a "moral imperative" to help people fleeing "horrific conditions ... and facing what happened in Paris on a daily basis." He concluded, "We need to be governed not by fear, but by the principles that made this country proud." – M.K.

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from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Austin Water Woes Continue

Last Wednesday during a **Public Utility Committee** meeting, **Austin Water Utility** Director **Greg Meszaros** told members of Council that both his department and **Austin Energy** (which handles billing for AWU) are in the process of securing third-party firms to conduct audits of their **meter reading and billing** processes. Preliminary findings should be available at the next Public Utility Committee meeting in mid-December. By January's meeting, Meszaros says, the two departments hope to have completed their respective audits and have a list of subsequent recommendations from each outside agency. What happens after that currently remains some bureaucratic mumbo-jumbo.

The audits arrive after two-and-a-half months spent trying to figure out why so many people throughout the city saw their **summer water bills** reach unreasonably high usage figures. Households that typically used around 2,000 gallons every month were getting charged for 13,000, with neighborhoods in the city's southwest region getting hit with inflated bills en masse. Both Austin Water and Austin Energy denied any systemic issues at the time, noting that bill accuracy usually falls "in the 99-plus percent range." But a quick review of Sept. 2014's city audit on the water billing process indicated that both departments lack the necessary scrutiny to review a city's worth of meter readings and billings with pinpoint accuracy.

As explained in the audit – conducted, in part, because of findings last February that **Corix**, a Buda-based company that works in water utility infrastructure, wasn't conducting accurate reads of water meters – AE and AWU's joint review process for meter readings is woefully inexact. In fact, restrictions were so loose that initial readings conducted by Corix prior to the audit wouldn't get flagged when they ran through the computer-based billing system funnel unless the figures amounted to more or less than four times the household's typical figures. Speaking last Wednesday, **Elaine Kelly-Diaz**, vice president of customer account management at AE, told Council members that additional systems are now in place to combat that expansive range; meter readers are prompted to verify the numbers if they breach an atomically configured cap; and AE has introduced a second internal method to align with the aforementioned flaggings. More than a year later, however, the department has only conducted one preliminary review to determine whether or not the adjustments actually worked.

– Chase Hoffberger



Navigant: Gas Is a Natural

In mid-November, **Navigant Consulting** released its independent study of **Austin Energy's 2025 Resource Generation Plan**, reviewing various potential energy "portfolios" over the next 20 years and evaluating which is likely to produce the best mix of value and environmental benefits, while mitigating risks of price spikes or power shortages. The study reviews seven possible scenarios, ranging from an "all market" approach to various mixes of natural gas, wind, and solar energy (including the presumption that the coal-fired Fayette Power Plant will be retired from AE's portfolio by 2023). The study was completed before Council's recent authorization of the procurement of an additional 438 MW of solar energy, but the authors report that the study supports that decision.

According to the consultants, four of the seven reviewed portfolios result in similar energy and environmental results, but they recommended a plan which includes replacing the 45-year-old **Decker Creek gas plant** (to be retired by 2018) with a new **500 MW gas plant**, primarily to mitigate the risk of solar and wind sources not being as consistently "dispatchable" as natural gas. They say that relying entirely on renewables could require AE to purchase power intermittently from the state **ERCOT** grid – meaning both price instability and, paradoxically, reliance on coal-based power from other sources as a backup. The proposed replacement gas plant has been the most disputed aspect of the Generation Plan.

Navigant presented its findings earlier this month to a reportedly skeptical Electric Utility Commission, but hasn't yet reported to City Council (expected next month). Asked about the report and its recommendations, **Tom Smith** of **Public Citizen** said the study did acknowledge that the gas plant is "a billion dollar risk" because of the volatility of natural gas prices. He said the consultants didn't sufficiently review alternatives like energy storage, demand-side management, or energy efficiency – all questions that could have given greater weight to renewable sources. – Michael King



Decker Creek gas plant will be retired and replaced in 2018.

COURTESY OF AUSTIN ENERGY

Benefit Shopping Night

to support Friends of McCallum Students and help economically disadvantaged students at McCallum High School and the middle and elementary schools that feed into McCallum. Join us for a festive evening of holiday shopping, entertainment and complimentary holiday treats! Before or after shopping, have dinner next door at Noble Sandwich Co, which will donate 25% of sales to FMS.

Entertainment by: **Matt the Electrician, McCallum Chamber Orchestra Ensemble, Kealing Middle School Singers**



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All proceeds will go to FMS, which assists students and families with accessing financial and other community resources.





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 Marc Cohn SAT DEC 5 JUST ADDED	 David Benoit Tribute to Charlie Brown w/ Jane Monheit FRI DEC 11	 A Gospel According to Jazz Xmas Kirk Whalum, Gerald Albright, Norman Brown & Shelia SUN DEC 20	 Blood, Sweat & Tears FRI JAN 22
 Rachelle Farrell SAT JAN 23	 Lizz Wright SUN JAN 24	 Dave Mason FRI JAN 29	 Walkin' Woody's Road Jimmy LaFave, Eliza Gilkyson, Lance Canales SAT JAN 30
 Nils Lofgren SUN JAN 31	 Branford Marsalis WED FEB 3	 Johnette Napolitano (of Concrete Blonde) THU FEB 4 JUST ADDED	 Hal Ketchum FRI FEB 5
 Crystal Gayle SAT FEB 6	 Marc Antoine & Steve Cole SUN FEB 14	 George Winston WED & THU FEB 17 & 18	 BJ Thomas SUN FEB 21

FAB FOUR	2.28	JUST ADDED TOMMY CASTRO & THE PAINKILLERS	4.27	ACOUSTIC ALCHEMY	6.10
SOLAS	3.2	SUZANNE VEGA	4.28	THE RIPPINGTONS	6.24
ALTAN	3.8	SAWYER BROWN	4.29	YOGA SUMMIT & KIRTAN WITH JAI UTAL	7.10
MADELEINE PEYROUX	3.10	JIMMY WEBB THE GLEN CAMPBELL YEARS	5.1	EUGE GROOVE & PETER WHITE	7.22
HERMAN'S HERMITS WITH PETER NOONE	3.18	KRIS ALLEN	5.5	FIREFALL	7.29
SPYRO GYRA	3.25	THE MUSIC OF ABBA	5.15	THE LETTERMEN	8.7
THE ASSOCIATION	4.1	BOB SCHNEIDER	5.20	MICHAEL GRIMM	8.14
JOHN HAMMOND	4.14	BWB (RICK BRAUN, KIRK WHALUM & NORMAN BROWN)	5.27	PAULA POUNDSTONE	8.20
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Planned Parenthood v. Texas, Redux

MEDICAL PROVIDER CLAIMS STATE IS BREAKING FEDERAL LAW

Planned Parenthood has filed suit against the **state of Texas** over its decision to exclude the reproductive health provider from the **Medicaid program**.

On Oct. 19, citing “evidence of Medicaid program violations,” the **Office of Inspector General at the Texas Health and Human Services Commission** delivered a “termination letter” of Medicaid enrollment to the provider. The decision followed the release of highly edited and widely discredited videos released by the anti-choice **Center for Medical Progress**, charging that Planned Parenthood providers profited off the sale of fetal tissue. The OIG also contends PP engaged in Medicaid fraud, but have provided no concrete evidence.

The class action suit, which features 10 anonymous patient co-plaintiffs including three from Austin, was filed in federal district court in Austin this Monday, Nov. 23, said Planned Parenthood representatives. It charges the state with breaking federal Medicaid law under the **Social Security Act**, which ensures patients have a right to choose their own provider as long as that provider is qualified. Plaintiffs also say the state has violated the 14th Amendment’s Equal Protection clause. The decision “will cause significant and irreparable harm” to the provider and to the patients, who “will lose their provider of choice [and] will find their family planning services interrupted, and in many cases will be left with reduced access to care,” the suit reads.

The state makes four central claims against PP, including altering the timing of abortion to procure fetal tissue, and failing to prevent conditions that would spread infectious disease – Planned Parenthood adamantly says all accusations are false. PP Federation of America attorney **Jennifer Sandman** called the state’s allegations “trumped-up justifications.”

Kicking Planned Parenthood out of Medicaid would eliminate \$3 million in federal funds and banish at least 13,500 low-income women – including 1,000 Austin clients who come to the clinics each year –



Planned Parenthood supporters rally at the Texas State Capitol in November.

“WE CANNOT CONTINUE IMPOSING BARRIERS TO CARE ON WOMEN. AND WHEN WE DO IT IN A WAY THAT DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTS UNDERSERVED OR LOW-INCOME WOMEN, WE ARE GROWING THE HEALTH DISPARITIES THAT WE SHOULD BE FOCUSED ON REDUCING.”
– DR. HAL LAWRENCE

from their trusted source of preventive reproductive health care, including birth control, cancer screenings, and STI testing. Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas, which includes three Austin clinics as well as clinics in Waco and Tyler, received more than 10,000 visits from more than 5,000 Medicaid program patients. With half of the Texas centers located in underserved areas, it’s highly likely that if a woman cannot visit PP, there is no close option for basic care.

Dr. **Hal C. Lawrence**, executive vice president and CEO of the **American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists**, debunked the oft-peddled claim by conservative state officials and lawmakers that ample health providers besides PP exist to adequately serve women. “That is just sim-

ply impossible,” said Lawrence. The Texas health care system is far from equipped to handle the level of need, as providers are already overwhelmed and unable to absorb additional patients. As a result of funding cuts made by the Texas Legislature, more than 80 family planning clinics have shut their doors, according to research from the UT-Austin based **Texas Policy Evaluation Project (TxPEP)**. The state’s family planning program served 54% fewer clients than they had before massive cuts to women’s health in 2011, according to a 2014 study published in the *American Journal of Public Health* by the TxPEP researchers.

Straining the network even further is a shortage of Medicaid providers across the country, he said, and the problem is even

worse among OB-GYNs. “Now is the time to look at ways to improve how we serve Medicaid patients, not to make it even harder to find a doctor by removing so many health centers from the program,” said Lawrence. “We cannot continue imposing barriers to care on women. And when we do it in a way that disproportionately impacts underserved or low-income women, we are growing the health disparities that we should be focused on reducing.”

The move in Texas is part of a strategic nationwide effort, say PP representatives. The provider optimistically notes federal courts have blocked similar attempts in Utah, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Alabama. The **7th and 9th Circuit Courts** have also ruled against states that tried to push abortion providers out from Medicaid.

This is just the latest shot in a long string of attacks on the reproductive health care provider: During the most recent legislative session, anti-choice lawmakers banned PP from participating in the **Breast and Cervical Cancer Services** program. In 2012, the state barred PP from the Medicaid-based Women’s Health Program, sending 50,000 patients scrambling to find another provider. During that time, the provider filed suit to block the rule. In the end, Texas left behind \$9-1 in federal matching grants, subsidizing the program without PP involved. The state’s own calculations revealed around 30,000 fewer women received care through the new, PP-free Texas **Women’s Health Program**.

One of those Medicaid patients, **Kendra Hudson** of Houston, joined the Monday press call. Hudson says PP helped her detect pre-cancerous cells after a biopsy test and worked on preventing the disease with treatments. She lost her coverage after the 2012 rule went into effect. “There weren’t real alternatives. I was really overwhelmed. It took weeks or even months to get an appointment somewhere else,” she said. “They were my provider for years. I trusted them and felt comfortable there.” Today, Hudson pays out-of-pocket for the preventative care that helped save her life.

“Women in Texas today have fewer rights than they did when I was growing up and less access to health care,” said **Cecile Richards**, Planned Parenthood Federation of America president. “And this time, yet again, they are targeting some of the most

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vulnerable Texans. These patients are low-income, young people, students, mothers, and folks who work multiple jobs and already face enormous hurdles to getting the health care they need.” Indeed, patients who qualify are met with steep requirements: For example, a woman with children qualifies for Medicaid only if she earns up to 15% of the federal poverty level, or \$3,013.50, for a family of three, the provider points out.

Patients could lose coverage as early as December 8. Planned Parenthood has asked the courts for emergency relief.

As for the subsequent, unannounced raid of Planned Parenthood offices by state officials conducted just days after the decision to cut them from Medicaid, PP says they are working closely to ensure the request for thousands of patient documents is narrowed to protect patient privacy. “The timing of those inspections shows them for what they are, which was a politically motivated attempt to try to trump up additional basis for termination,” said Sandman, when asked by the *Chronicle* if the provider would respond to the raid with any legal action. “But at this point the only thing that the administration has claimed against us are false allegations.”

– Mary Tuma

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Featured artwork by Jefferson Bright

This project is supported in part by the Cultural Arts Division of the City of Austin Economic Development Department.

White Student Union Hits UT

Last Friday, a Facebook group called the **White Student Union at UT Austin** made its introductory post. It wasn't a mission statement; that came later (on Monday, Nov. 23). Instead it was a picture of University of Texas football coach **Charlie Strong**, with the following caption: "Is Charlie Strong an example of political correctness gone wrong? Rather than admitting our mistake in hiring this sub par coach because of his ethnicity, I am afraid political correctness will make us hold onto him for years longer than if he were just another white coach."

It didn't create many waves, with just a handful of commenters who appeared to want to debate football. But that's not what the account was created for, and that became clear over the weekend, as the post was followed up by Confederate imagery and insane click-bait articles. At press time, more than 200 people have liked the page, likely made up by more of those appalled at the messaging than those sincerely interested in joining.

And that's really the entire point.

The admin of the page, hiding in anonymity to avoid being "expelled" and having their "career ruined," said the purpose of the group is to create a safe space for students of European descent (you know, white) to participate in "open dialog about our shared interests." (No, he didn't expound on what those interests might be.) The admin, who also assures the *Chronicle* he is not alone in this effort, cites the **Black Lives Matter** movement as one reason for the page.

If it all sounds a little too scripted, well, congrats – you have a baseline knowledge of Internet culture. Take a cookie!

The creation of this page coincides with a slew of similarly named Facebook groups for

universities across the country. UT is just the tip of the iceberg. The easiest to find, of course, was the one for Berkeley, because the UT page shared one of its posts, complaining about the "visceral hatred" the admins over there are getting. (It's since been deleted.) There's one for NYU. And Penn State. And UCLA.

And maybe all of them are connected to a message board prank. On the politics board of the website **4Chan** (the literal armpit of the Internet; seriously don't go there), a series of posts outlined strategy for a nationwide action of this kind over the weekend. Then they started watching for a reaction, and giggling about it like schoolchildren.

"Whoever is creating these White Student Union pages – you're genius," said one commenter.

"You're exposing the anti-White reaction, and you're agitating the wasp's nest."

The admin for UT's page said they are a group of actual students who have been using 4Chan as a place to "organize and take the next step to meet[ing] in real life." The website at large has merely

been taking credit for their work. That's a hard pill to swallow, when multiple nearly identical "mission statements" are popping up online. UCLA's claims it was "inspired" by Berkeley. And UT's admin says that, while the Berkeley people are more liberal than him, he's Skyped with them before.

The White Student Union is not condoned by UT, and hasn't gone through the process necessary to be accepted as an official student organization, but it is unclear what would happen if they choose to go that route. When asked if such an organization would be accepted, Assistant Director of Communications for the Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs **Jess Mitchell** said, "We can't speak in hypotheticals."

– Nina Hernandez



The removal of the Jefferson Davis statue at UT

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Working Overtime, but Not Getting Paid for It

LOCAL WORKER ALLEGES WAGE THEFT

About three months ago, **Alejandro Gutierrez Vega** went to a construction site on the property of the Domain shopping center in search of a job. Gutierrez Vega, a Mexican immigrant, has lived and worked in Austin for 20 years. For a long time, he worked for various large companies, doing things like pouring cement and working with heavy machinery. But recently he wanted to change his line of work, because working those jobs was hard for someone reaching middle age. He had been instead doing remodeling and painting, but at the time he went to the Domain, he had lost his last job and needed to find something immediately. "I have to pay my bills," he told the *Chronicle*, in Spanish.

Gutierrez Vega began working at the site, building the base of a building's second floor. He said the work was very dangerous. He was given no safety precautions and no harness; "no one uses anything for safety," he said. "They don't tell you anything, except you need to bring your own helmet" (according to federal law, helmets are sup-

posed to be provided by the employer).

After a few days on the job, the section Gutierrez Vega and the others had been working on was finished, and another group of workers was set to begin framing. Wanting to continue to work, Gutierrez Vega again went directly to the subcontractor, **Marcos Don Juan Velazquez**.

Gutierrez Vega was paid in cash each week. He worked in a team of three, and one person was in charge of keeping track of hours for the trio, but nothing was written down. Instead, that person kept track of the team's hours in his head, and Gutierrez Vega was paid for approximately the amount of time he worked. Except: Although Gutierrez Vega worked about 45-50 hours each week, he said he received no overtime pay, but was instead paid \$11 for each hour he worked. (For example, if he worked 50 hours one week, he received \$550.) There was no talk among the workers about overtime, but Gutierrez Vega knew that he was supposed to be paid time-and-a-half for each hour he worked after



hitting 40 hours per week because "I've worked in other places and I knew about overtime." He was taken aback that his employer would treat him and his fellow workers this way. "The job is a commercial project, it can't be possible that they pay like we're building a little house."

In addition to the alleged wage theft, Gutierrez Vega said that the site was unsafe. When he was working for the first subcontractor, his supervisor fell from the building and hurt his back. Later, while he was ripping out some drywall, Gutierrez Vega stumbled over a pile of trash – he said the site was covered in trash – and

hurt his leg. He stayed home for two days, then went back to work, not wanting to miss any more time. At the end of the day, his knee was swollen and painful, requiring a trip to the doctor. His employer provided no insurance or workers' comp. During Gutierrez Vega's time at the site, an OSHA complaint was filed for unsafe working conditions.

Eventually Gutierrez Vega became fed up with the lack of overtime pay, and went to **Workers Defense Project**, where he has been a member for a few years, and asked for help filing a notice of nonpayment of \$365.54, which he sent on Nov. 13. Marcos



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Don Juan Velazquez was Gutierrez Vega's direct employer at the site; however, the site's general contractor is **Amicus Construction**, owned by Robert Shaw. (When asked for comment, a representative for Amicus, which is based in Dallas, said that she had not received the notice, and "I have no idea what you're talking about.") Another of Shaw's companies, **Columbus Realty Partners**, is set to be part of the team responsible for **Capital Metro's Plaza Saltillo project**.

WDP Better Builder Director **Bo Delp** told the *Chronicle* that Amicus' use of Marcos Don Juan Velazquez as a sub raises concerns for WDP about Shaw's companies' commitment to worker safety and living wages in general. Delp wrote in an email, "We were appalled to learn that Robert Shaw and his business partners are poised to profit greatly from the development and construction of Plaza Saltillo, a taxpayer asset, while his construction company is subject of an open and ongoing federal investigation for unsafe working conditions at the Domain. This development does not reflect Capital Metro's values, nor the community at large, and should disqualify the joint venture between Endeavor Real Estate Group and Robert Shaw from being awarded taxpayer funds to build on public land without providing living wages, safety training, workers' compensation, job training, and independent on-site monitoring for construction workers." — *Amy Kamp*

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Car2Go Offers Promotion for New Members

As rideshare firms become synonymous with surge pricing, and Uber gets into an increasingly vitriolic war with City Council, car share service **Car2Go** is hoping to win some seasonal goodwill with a holiday price cut.

Unlike rideshare companies, where private car owners pick up passengers, car share services like Car2Go are more like short-term car rental services, allowing drivers to book out a vehicle for as short or as long as they need: the longer they have the car, the more they pay. Running through Dec. 6, the company is dropping the sign-up charge for new members from \$35 to \$5, and throwing in 60 minutes of free travel time. In addition, existing members will see the per-minute fee for signing out a car drop from 41 cents to 19 cents. **Paul DeLong**, CEO and president of Car2Go North America, described the promotion as a way to both recruit new members and inspire existing members to use the service more regularly.

At the same time, it's also a way to hit back at the rideshare services that have been grabbing headlines and market share. Over the past couple of years, market leaders **Uber** and **Lyft** have been locked in an exchange of rate cuts and tariff shifts, and alternative services like Car2Go and public transit got caught in the wake. DeLong said, "From a competitive landscape, we're seeing a challenge from them, and this gives us a chance to get in the game."

It could also provide some local goodwill after a much more contentious change. Earlier this year, the company pulled its Austin home area map back to its smallest footprints in the service's five-year local history (see "Car2Go Closes Ranks," Sept. 25). The change faced criticism from users who found their home or office suddenly cut out of the service area. They faced a tough decision: use Car2Go part of the way to their destination, or potentially spend more money on the same trip, since they could not sign the car back in.

According to DeLong, it was all about the numbers. Before the change, 88% of all trips were in the current home area, and while the



JANA BIRCHUM

other 12% may have been good for those drivers, as soon as they parked in the outlying areas, those vehicles could remain unused indefinitely. For a business based on providing vehicles for multiple short trips, that's bad news, especially if a customer in a high-usage area can't find a car because it's been sitting in a low-usage area for days. DeLong said, "The one thing that our membership base was giving us feedback on was availability."

Concentrating on the Downtown area made business sense – and Car2Go is a business. In Austin, 90% of all journeys are less than 30 minutes, while the average trip is a three-mile, 15-minute, one-way. The bulk of those short hops are in the central core – a reflection of the increase in the Downtown population and lower car ownership in those areas.

DeLong admitted that the change "created some confusion for people who live in low-utilization areas." However, he said, "I'm not getting paid to put my cars in areas where they're not getting used."

While commercial necessities inevitably drive decisions, DeLong argues that the changes in pricing and service areas will embed his firm deeper in the matrix of transit options, and continue to move Austinites from the current paradigm of what is effectively mandatory car ownership. He said Car2Go "complements Cap Metro, complements **B-cycle**, complements all the other modes of transport out there."

— Richard Whittaker

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CANDIDATES LINE UP TO FILE

With the clown-car antics of the GOP presidential nomination race headlines dominating electoral headlines, it's easy to forget that **March 1, 2016 is primary day** in Texas for everyone. With only three weeks to go before candidate filing closes on Dec. 14, there's already a growing list of incumbents and optimists lining up for their places up and down the ballot.

Congressional

So far, it's incumbents only, with Republicans **Bill Flores** (Congressional District 17) and **Roger Williams** (CD 25), and Democrat **Lloyd Doggett** (CD 35) turning their paperwork in.

State Senate

Earlier this year Sen. **Troy Fraser**, R-Horseshoe Bay, announced he would not seek re-election to his District 24 seat. Now two Lakeway Republicans – ocular reconstructive surgeon **Dawn Buckingham** and residential construction business owner **Jon Cobb** – have filed to fill his soon-to-be-vacant seat. Buckingham resigned from the Lake Travis ISD Board of Trustees to concentrate on the race back in June: She also comes with some serious conservative credentials, having served as Lt. Gov. **Dan Patrick's** appointee to the Sunset Commission. However, conservative pressure group AgendaWise (one of the many front operations for self-appointed GOP kingmaker Michael Quinn Sullivan) has already slurred her as a “moderate.” So far, there's only one Democratic filing: SD 21 incumbent **Judith Zaffirini**, D-Laredo, will run for her seat again.

Texas House

Three of the five local Democratic reps – **Donna Howard**, **Celia Israel**, and **Eddie Rodriguez** – have filed, and dean of the delegation **Elliott Naishtat** is expected to follow suit. And **Dawanna Dukes**, when asked whether she planned to file, said, “Absolutely.” There had been some speculation that, after sustaining serious neck injuries in a 2013 car wreck, she might retire, but, she said, “Remember they said the same thing when I adopted a child?” She said she had been planning to submit her paperwork nearer the deadline, but since she was getting questioned by the press, “Now I've got to go file.” On the Republican side, the county's sole

GOP rep, Paul Workman, was added to the Secretary of State's list of filers on Nov. 23. He'd been discussed as a potential candidate for Fraser's SD 24 seat, but said earlier this summer he'd be running for his own again.

Judicial

There's little change in the district courts, with all the Travis County incumbents pledging to return. That includes one slightly surprising but broadly welcomed name: Judge **Julie Kocurek**, who announced she will run again even while she is recovering from being shot at and injured by shrapnel last month. However, that doesn't mean there are no races brewing. In October, Gov. Greg Abbott appointed his deputy chief counsel Don Clemmer to the newly created 450th District Court, and there are already two Dems hoping to succeed him in the general election. Both defense attorney Brad Urrutia and juvenile defense expert Chantal Melissa Eldridge had been touted as potential Abbott appointees to the bench, and now are headed to a primary fight for what seems like a safe Democrat position.

County

After Travis County Sheriff **Greg Hamilton** announced his retirement, four Democrats emerged to replace him: County Constable **Sally Hernandez**, Sergeant **Don Rios**, Lakeway Police Department Chief **Todd Radford**, and Deputy **John Sisson**. However, only two – Rios and Radford – have filed their paperwork so far, and the race has been complicated by Hamilton backpedaling and telling multiple media sources he may run again. It's smoother sailing in the Tax Assessor-Collector race: The endlessly popular **Bruce Elfant** has filed for a second term, and it would be a brave soul indeed that would run against Austin Democrats' favorite political uncle. – *Richard Whittaker*

THE HIGHTOWER REPORT BY JIM HIGHTOWER

Pink Ribbons Don't Cure Breast Cancer

Must everything be commercialized – even cancer?

This is a question that more and more women who have breast cancer are asking in rising vexation over what's become known as the “pinkification” of their disease. They're referring to the ubiquitous breast cancer awareness campaign that uses pink ribbons and pink everything to promote mammograms for early detection of the cancer. Sounds innocent enough, except for a couple of ugly realities.

Pink Problem No. 1 is that the campaign has become a cheap way for profiteering corporations to glom onto a feel-good cause, literally wrapping themselves in pink to sell their products under the guise that they are altruists helping women fight this deadly illness. For example, during October's Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Delta Air Lines dresses flight attendants in pink and sells pink lemonade on its flights, Ford sells

“Warriors in Pink” decals for its cars, and Dick's Sporting Goods offers pink football cleats and other specially-tinted merchandise.

Pink Problem No. 2 is that the millions of dollars thrown into these corporate and charitable PR campaigns are focused on detection of the disease, rather than on the more crucial needs of developing preventative measures and cures, caring for those who do get the cancer, and mounting an all-out research effort to determine its environmental causes. “What do we have to show for the billions spent on pink ribbon products?” asks the director of the activist group Breast Cancer Action. “A lot of us are done with awareness,” she says. “We want action.”

We've had 25 years of what breast cancer activists now call “pinkwashing,” yet the disease is as rampant as ever. Wearing a pink ribbon is not enough – to help shift the effort into causes, cures, and caring, go to www.breastcancerdeadline2020.org.

For more information on Jim Hightower's work – and to subscribe to his award-winning monthly newsletter, “The Hightower Lowdown” – visit www.jimhightower.com. You can hear his radio commentaries on KOOP Radio 91.7FM, weekdays at 10:58am and 12:58pm.



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This time around we celebrate the films of Austin-born **CINEMATIC TREASURE ETHAN HAWKE**, who has a birthday this month.

NOW AT VULCAN VIDEO

A Midnight Clear (1992)

DRAMA

War is hell even in the dead of winter for a platoon of World War II dogfaces lost in the Ardennes Forest and surrounded by Germans on Christmas Eve, 1944. As Sgt. Will Knott – no points for subtlety there – Hawke is terrific in one of his flat-out best roles ever. A surrealistic reimagining of events that actually took place in World War I, director Keith “Christine” Gordon's dreamlike, anti-war flick is mesmerizing and heartbreaking in equal measure. And you get a shellshocked, naked Gary Sinise to boot!

– Marc Savlov

Before the Devil Knows

You're Dead (2007)

DIRECTOR'S WALL - LUMET

Two brothers conspire to rob their family's jewelry store. What could go wrong? Absolutely everything, it turns out. As younger brother Hank, Hawke gives one of his strongest performances as he goes toe to toe with his manipulative brother, Andy (Philip Seymour Hoffman, in full-on scenery-chewing mode). Imagine *Fargo* crossed with *Leaving Las Vegas*, and you're getting close to this criminally underrated film by one of cinema's true masters.

– Josh Kupecki

Waterland (1992)

GREAT BRITAIN

Three years after Ethan Hawke's breakout role in *Dead Poets Society*, he was back in the classroom – this time sassing teach about the relevance of long-gone history – in this 1992 adaptation of a Graham Swift novel. Jeremy Irons, in sad-man mustache, plays the teacher who makes a lesson of his own tragic history of furtive sex and its devastating consequences in the marshy Fens of the Fifties. A mournful, unfairly forgotten film that also marked the first film role for Lena Headey, tangling with shame long before she took up the mantle of Cersei Lannister.

– Kimberley Jones

Seymour: An Introduction (2014)

NEW RELEASE

Ethan Hawke is one of those artists for whom the term multi-hyphenate was coined. Best known as a film actor (one of the best of his generation, I might add), he is also a prolific stage actor and director, and novelist. He has also directed some films, the standout being the 2014 doc, *Seymour: An Introduction*, in which he speaks candidly with another artist, the teacher and concert pianist Seymour Bernstein, about the intersections of life and art, virtuosity and phoniness. It's a meeting of the souls.

– Marjorie Baumgarten

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE

austinchronicle.com/screens



Mobile Loaves & Fishes volunteers Bob and Mary Lou Batlan with Jacob Hale, who worked for MLF as part of his Temple Beth Shalom Bar Mitzvah project

Gloria Guzman with her grandchildren Isaiah and Sierra



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOB AND MARY LOU BATLAN

Setting the Table

How Thanksgiving meals make their way to Austinites in need

BY NINA HERNANDEZ

Gloria Guzman wants to teach her grandchildren – Isaiah, 18, and Sierra, 11 – gratitude. Volunteering as a family, bringing warm food to people in need on Thanksgiving Day, brings the three of them closer. She knows that seeing people from different walks of life has helped her grandson, who has been delivering Meals on Wheels with his grandmother since he was 11 years old, mature. “I kind of feel like they’re being brat kids, you know what I mean?” she said. “They haven’t seen the other side. They think that everything is easy come.”

And why Meals on Wheels, and not any of the other slew of nonprofits operating in Austin during the holiday season or year-round?

“Well, I had my mother first. She was a recipient of Meals on Wheels. So I always thought I wanted to pay back for what they had always done for my mom. They were always there for her.”

Guzman’s mother received Meals on Wheels for “years and years.” Before that, Guzman would run to her mother’s home on her lunch break and make something for the two of them. When Guzman’s job site moved to the other side of town, she had no idea how she would continue to ensure her elderly mother maintained a healthy diet. That’s where Meals on Wheels came in.

“There are other Meals on Wheels programs across the country that maybe serve more meals than we do on an annual basis, but we take a more holistic approach to keeping our clients living at home independently, and keeping them out of assisted living,” said Thad Rosenfeld, vice president of communications at Meals on Wheels and More. That comes in the form of not only 3,000 meals a day, but also pet

care through the PALS program (Pets Assisting the Lives of Seniors) and \$2.5 million a year in home repairs. The clients MOW serves are often elderly or disabled, with one or more barriers to preparing food. The “and More” part of the Meals on Wheels brand acknowledges that, as Rosenfeld said, MOW can serve as many meals as possible but they won’t achieve their goal if other problems force clients out of their homes. Or if they can’t afford pet food, and end up sharing their meals with their animals.

“It’s just a relief,” said Guzman, whose mother died in 2013 at 87, of the Meals on Wheels experience. “I guess the word’s going to be relief. Relief that she was getting



A woman wears a knit cap donated to MLF. The effort is called “Knitzvah,” a play on the Hebrew word meaning “a charitable act.”

The “and More” part of the Meals on Wheels brand acknowledges that, as Rosenfeld said, MOW can serve as many meals as possible but they won’t achieve their goal if other problems force clients out of their homes.

ting healthy by eating Meals on Wheels food, and I didn’t have to be worrying about, ‘Oh gosh, I have to go and cook her this, she hasn’t eaten.’”

On Thanksgiving Day proper, Meals on Wheels serves 500 meals (down from the daily 3,000), due to a major donation from H-E-B. “So many of our clients have outlived family and friends, and they live alone,” said Rosenfeld. “They live a very meager existence. These are folks who worked hard all their lives, they’ve played by the rules, and they find themselves in these so-called ‘golden years’ in a very tenuous situation, both physically and economically.”

FROM ONE TO 30,000

Brian Tolbert, head of local nonprofit Operation Turkey, also learned valuable lessons in charity when he was a kid in Bastrop. His family always cooked more than they could eat, so his mother had him walk down the railroad tracks, delivering meals to people in the community. Even though he admits back then he would rather have been playing Atari, those memories surfaced when Richard Bagdonas, who founded Operation Turkey in 2000 by serving a single plate, asked Tolbert to take the reins in 2010.

Bagdonas had grown Operation Turkey from that one plate in 2000 into an organization with 3,500 to 4,000 volunteers. Each year, he had identified more homeless people in need of hot meals on the holiday. By 2010 – Bagdonas’ last year as executive director – they served 4,000 meals. For Tolbert, the next step was to begin spreading Operation Turkey to other cities in Texas. San Marcos was the first, followed by Dallas,

Houston, and Lubbock. Now across five states and 10 different cities, Tolbert estimates they’ll serve 30,000 meals altogether this year. Austin’s share is around 8,000, up 2,000 from last year.

Operation Turkey uses restaurant kitchens to prepare their meals (except the turkeys, which are smoked separately). Tolbert prefers to use large-scale chains because it helps with expanding the organization into other states, removing some of the headache of continually finding new places to operate. Last year, he approached Güero’s Taco Bar about using their facility. He was given permission – but the owners were skeptical.

“So Thanksgiving Day comes around, and I can see it in Cathy’s face,” Tolbert said. “She was absolutely nervous. There’s a ton of people around there. Nothing looks organized. I call it organized chaos. I tell everybody, ‘What you are about to see is organized chaos.’ We get in there, we do our thing. We tell people, ‘Do this, this, this.’ People fall into place,

CONTINUED ON P.30

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF OPERATION TURKEY



SETTING THE TABLE CONTINUED FROM P.28
and it becomes this well-oiled machine in a short amount of time.

“And Rob, Cathy’s husband, I’ll never forget, there in the middle of the event he kind of takes me over to the side and he says, ‘Brian, you know what, when you first came in, you sat down at the table and told us that you were going to bring a thousand plus people here, you were going to turn this chaos into organization. He straight up said, excuse my French: ‘I thought you were full of shit,’” Tolbert said, laughing.

Tolbert understands Guzman’s motives for bringing her grandchildren to Meals on Wheels for Thanksgiving. Even though at the time he’d have rather been doing something else, he says he still looks back on his childhood memories of feeding people with fondness.

“It apparently gave me a base foundation about what giving is about.” Wanting to stay at home “was me being a selfish child. Plain and simple,” he said. “And so I realized real quick I better stop being selfish.”

“A WAY TO FEEL LOVE”

Bob Batlan, an Austin Interfaith board member, belongs to Temple Beth Shalom in Northwest Austin, so he admits he thought it was a little odd when the service committee chair at his wife Mary Lou’s church, Westlake United Methodist, offered him a seat. That was in 2001. Shortly after Batlan joined, the group began organizing to help Mobile Loaves & Fishes, a Catholic service organization founded in 1998 to feed Austin’s hungry. Bob and Mary Lou were soon “hooked.”

“Because of that, Bob leads three groups from Westlake Methodist that still have specific turns that they volunteer monthly with Mobile Loaves,” said Mary Lou. “And he leads four groups from Temple Beth Shalom, our Jewish congregation, in their service work for Mobile Loaves four times a month. We’re frequent flyers there.”

According to the Capital Area Food Bank of Texas, 1.8 million children in the state are food insecure.

Left: Across all states, Brian Tolbert estimates 10,000 people volunteer with Operation Turkey. **Right:** Last year, OT was able to collect 30 barbecue pits and used them to smoke 400 turkeys in just six hours. This year, OT is looking to increase its turkey output by 100 birds, since their goal is to serve 8,000 plates – up 2,000 from last year.

Mobile Loaves trucks serve 1,000 meals to the homeless Downtown. For Thanksgiving they hold a feast to feed 500, which this year fell on Monday, Nov. 23. With a trailer equipped with a grill – dubbed the Goodness Grill – they can smoke up to 28 turkeys at a time. Local cover band Buzz & the Blue Cats performed, and Austin-based sock company Mitscoots brought gifts. Last year a group of cosmetology students from Aveda Institute offered free haircuts. Starting at 5:30pm,

Downtown’s homeless population was treated to an evening of being waited on.

“A lot of them are usually kind of lonely on the holidays,” said Trudy Six, commissary manager for St. John Neumann Catholic Church. “So this is a way for them to be with their peers, their friends, and also be

served a free meal. A free, dignified meal – it’s not just a turkey sandwich. It’s an actual meal. They’re able to fellowship, sit with people they normally wouldn’t talk to. Our volunteers sit with them, and chat with them. It’s just a way for them to feel love at a time [when] if you don’t have any loved ones around you, it’s pretty lonely.”

Bob Batlan admits before his experience with MLE, he wasn’t personally touched by homelessness. He says through this service he and those he’s recruited have had their conventions challenged.

“I think the overwhelming thought is that they were just as surprised as I was that the people that we’re serving are so gracious, and so thankful, and friendly,” said Bob. “And a lot of them are parents of young kids, and they’re really thankful that their kids get to have that experience, and learn that there should be no stigma, but also grateful for what they have.”

According to the Capital Area Food Bank of Texas, 1.8 million children in the state are food insecure (defined by the USDA as a “household-level economic and social condition of limited or uncertain access to adequate food”). That’s almost 30%, which is about six points higher than the national average. The Salvation Army is intimately familiar with that statistic; Jan Gunter, communications and community relations director of SA’s Austin-area command, said 74% of the people they sheltered last year were women and children.

“The fastest-growing population of those experiencing homelessness in Austin right now is women and children,” said Gunter. “You don’t see them out on the streets, so the public is not aware of them. But they’re there, and they’re on our waiting list, and they’re living in our shelters, and they’re struggling in this economy to make things work.”

THE DAY AFTER BLACK WEDNESDAY

Even after a landmark Supreme Court marriage-equality decision broadened the legal definition of what constitutes an American family, holidays can still feel like toxic tar pits for some LGBTQ, triggering flashbacks of estrangement, abandonment, disownment, and even violence. Some intentionally skip the holidays altogether; most not by choice.

With this in mind, Oilcan Harry’s (OCH) owner Larry Davis keeps his popular Warehouse District gay bar open on Thanksgiving. Many of his customers, he says, still feel ostracized by their own families. “After they come out, parents don’t want anything to do with them, don’t welcome them home.”

In Austin, three gay bars, OCH, the Iron Bear, and Bout Time II, carry on a tradition that dates back to the mid-Eighties: free Thanksgiving feasts to anyone who feels left out of the holiday.

The Bout Time II celebration is a direct descendant of the tradition, according to owner David Green. The original Bout Time’s sister bar, the iconic Charlie’s Austin (then, Austin’s oldest gay bar) laid out lavish, free Thanksgiving and Christmas meals from the mid-Eighties until it closed in 2011. “Daddy Wayne” Schmidt, who originally hosted free Thanksgivings at a club called the Crossing, brought along the generous event when he moved over to Charlie’s. According to a 2004 account which appeared in Gulf Coast gay paper *Ambush*:

Oilcan Harry’s, 211 W. Fourth. Opens at 2pm; dinner at 4pm

Iron Bear, 121 W. Eighth. Dinner 5-8pm; bring a side to share

Bout Time II, 6607 N. I-35. Opens at 11am; dinner 1pm

“The holiday season was fast approaching, and one afternoon while sipping cocktails, Daddy Wayne asked the kid seated next to him if he was going home for Thanksgiving. The kid bowed his head and said, ‘No, they won’t let me come home.’ Stunned, Daddy Wayne asked why, and the young man replied, ‘Because I am gay.’ Later Daddy Wayne told [Crossing owner] Fred Fine, ‘Next year, you buy the food, I’ll cook.’”

“He wanted to make sure everyone had Thanksgiving and Christmas,” says Green. “Daddy Wayne” did so for decades, sometimes serving as many as 300 people. Green and current co-owner Tino Calderon keep the tradition alive, serving turkey, dressing, and all the fixin’s for 120 to 150 people each holiday. Post office retiree and regular volunteer holiday server Jack Heffington says no one is turned away. “People know they have a place to go to feel welcome, to eat a holiday meal – terrifically good food in a peaceful atmosphere – and to feel comfortable being themselves.”

Back at Oilcan Harry’s, Larry Davis is busy prepping the menu for his club’s holiday feast. He has no idea how many folks to expect: “We’ve had as few as five and as many as 150. We order a lot of food. It’s either a lot of leftovers or none.”

– Kate X Messer

Salvation Army serves about 400 people a day. Unlike some other nonprofits, SA's number leaps to anywhere from 500 to 700 depending on how many people are in need that particular Thanksgiving. Like MLF, Gunter said the sign-up sheet for volunteers filled up in October. "The volunteer opportunity is always filled up way early," she said.

For the families staying in the Salvation Army shelter, the Thanksgiving feast is one of few bright spots as they work back toward "self-sufficiency."

"Whether that's a single mom with her children, and there's another mom there with her children, and the kids are playing together," said Gunter, "that's their holiday. They're experiencing that love, and joy, and connection with each other. It means everything. For children especially. Or for moms who are trying to protect their children. And this is a crisis for them to be experiencing homelessness."

MAKING HUMAN CONNECTIONS

Seven years ago, when Guzman's grandson turned 11, she decided it was time to pay it forward. Since then, she says, her grandson has had his eyes opened to other walks of life. The human connections you make on the delivery route, she says, last longer than any plate of food.

Last year, at the last house on Guzman's route, she and her grandson knocked on the doors, shouting, "Meals on Wheels," but nobody answered – so they left. Driving by later with her grandson on an unrelated errand, she went back and knocked again.

"And they had gone to church, and they had come home," Guzman said. "The lady was so happy, she said, 'Oh, we thought we missed y'all. I told my husband, what are we going to eat now? We missed our food.' I said, 'Oh, no, ma'am. I came back to ensure you got your food.' That was a good experience for me and my grandson."

Another experience that sticks out is when she and her grandson delivered meals to a retired teacher who always wanted to shake Isaiah's hand. Guzman remembers vividly how the woman told the boy to always "keep your mind open." "You're intelligent," she would tell him.

Did he understand what the elderly woman was trying to tell him? "He said, 'Yes, grandma, I understand what she was trying to tell me.'"

"It doesn't take much to just let these folks know that they haven't been forgotten," said Rosenfeld. "A cheerful family delivering a hot, nutritious meal, and spending five or 10 minutes with these folks, it can brighten up what might otherwise be a dreary day for them. They think about everyone else celebrating with family and friends, and they're home alone. We couldn't do this without the great folks in Central Texas, who take time out of their holidays to help others." ■

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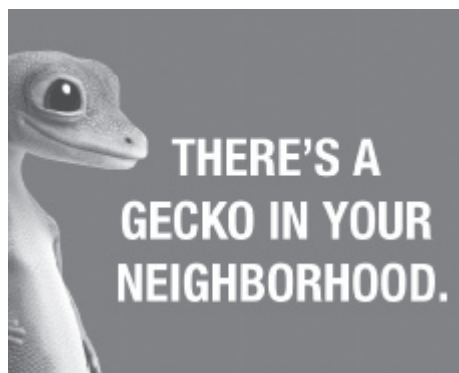
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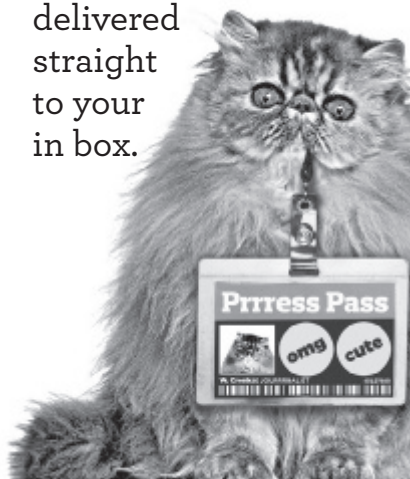
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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepherd



ROY TOMPKINS

Lowering the Bar in Zero Tolerance: The 6-year-old son of Martha Miele was given an automatic three-day out-of-school suspension at Our Lady of Lourdes in Cincinnati in October after, emulating actions of his favorite *Power Rangers* characters, he pretended to shoot a bow and arrow at another student. Principal Joe Crachiolo was adamant, insisting that he has “no tolerance for any real, pretend or imitated violence.” An exasperated Martha Miele confessed she was at a loss about how a 6-year-old boy is supposed to block out the concept of a superhero fighter (and instead imagine, say, a superhero counselor?).

Latest Religious Messages

American Sharia: 1) U.S. parents have a right to home-school their kids, but are subject to varying degrees of regulation, with Texas the most lax, and one El Paso family will have a day before the Texas Supreme Court after one of its kids was reported declining to study because education was useless since he was waiting to be “rap-tured” (as described in the Bible’s Book of Revelation). 2) U.S. courts increasingly allow customers to sign away state and federal rights by agreeing to contracts providing private arbitration for disputes rather than access to courts – even if the contract explicitly requires only religious resolutions rather than secular, constitutional ones. A November *New York Times* investigation examined contracts ranging from Scientology’s requirement that fraud claims by members be resolved only by Scientologists – to various consumer issues from home repairs to real estate sales limited to dockets of Christian clerics.

Leading Economic Indicators

First-World Spending: According to estimates released by the National Retail Federation in September, 157 million Americans “planned to celebrate” Halloween, spending a total of \$6.9 billion, of which \$2.5 billion would be on costumes, including \$350 million dressing up family pets.

At a ceremony in Kabul in November, prominent Afghan developer Khalilullah Frozi signed a \$95 million contract to build an 8,800-unit township and was, according to a *New York*

Times dispatch, toasted for his role in the country’s economic rebirth. However, at night-fall, Frozi headed back to prison to resume his 15-year sentence for defrauding Kabul Bank of nearly \$1 billion in depositors’ money. Because he remains one of Afghanistan’s elite, arrangements were made for him to work days but spend his nights in prison (in comfortable quarters). Said one Western official, laconically, “[I]f you have stolen enough money, you can get away with it.”

Cultural Diversity

Before the terrorist murders gripped Paris, President François Hollande and Iran’s President Hassan Rouhani had been trying to arrange a formal dinner during Rouhani’s planned visit to the city to celebrate the two countries’ role in the recent accord limiting Iran’s nuclear development. France’s RTL radio news reported that “dinner” is apparently more vexing than “nuclear weaponry” – as Rouhani demanded an alcohol-free meal, which was nixed by Hollande, who insisted that the French never dine without wine.

Compelling Explanations

Skeptics feared it was just a matter of time, anyway, until the “political correctness” movement turned its attention to dignity for thieves. San Francisco’s SFGate.com reported in October on a discussion in an upscale neighborhood about whether someone committing petty, nonviolent theft should be referred to by the “offensive” term “criminal” (rather than as, for example, “the person who

stole my bicycle,” since “criminal” implies a harsher level of evil and fails to acknowledge factors that might have caused momentary desperation by a person in severe need).

Reginald Gildersleeve, 55 and free on bond with an extensive rap sheet, was waving a gun as he threatened a clerk and tried to rob a store in Chicago on Halloween night – until a customer (licensed to carry) drew his own gun and, with multiple shots, killed Gildersleeve. Closer inspection revealed Gildersleeve’s weapon to be merely a paintball gun, leading the deceased man’s stepson to complain later that “Some people [the licensed shooter] don’t actually know how to use guns. They go to firing ranges, but it’s not the same ... as a bullet going into flesh. ... Someone’s got to answer for that.”

The Patient Will See You Now

Professional patients now help train would-be doctors, especially in the most delicate and dreaded of exams (gynecological and prostate), where a becalming technique improves outcomes. One “teaching associate” of Eastern Virginia Medical School told *The Washington Post* in September that the helpers act as “enthusiastic surgical dummies” to 65 medical colleges, guiding rookie fingers through the trainer’s own private parts. The prostate associate might helpfully caution, “No need for speed here,” especially since he will be bending over for as many as nine probings a day. A gynecological teaching associate, mentoring the nervous speculum-wielder, might wittily congratulate pupils on having a front-row sight line the “GTA” will never witness: an up-close view of her own cervix.

Least Competent Criminals

Nicholas Allegretto, 23, was convicted of shoplifting in Cambridge, England, in October (in absentia, because he is still at large). The prosecutor knows Allegretto is his man because, shortly after the February theft, police released a surveillance photo of Allegretto leaving the store with the unpaid-for item, and Allegretto had come to a police station to complain that the suddenly public picture made him look guilty. In fact, he claimed, he intended to pay for the item but had gotten distracted (and besides, he added, his body language often looks somewhat “dodgy,” anyway).

A “News of the Weird” Classic (January 2011)

Name in the News: Sought as a suspect in a convenience store killing in Largo, Fla., in December (2010) (and an example of the highly revealing “Three First Names” theory of criminal liability), Mr. Larry Joe Jerry – who actually has four first names: Larry Joe Jerry Jr. (He was convicted in 2013 and sentenced to 42 years in prison.)

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at
www.newssoftheweird.blogspot.com
(or www.newssoftheweird.com).

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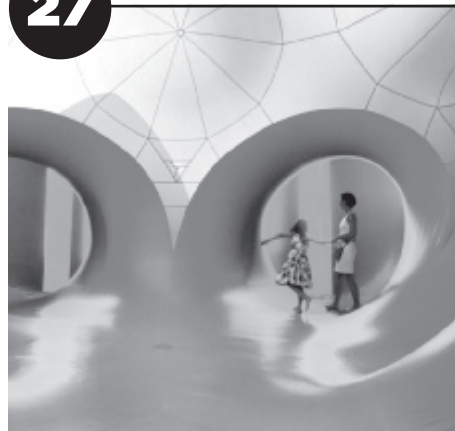
FOOD: **Thanksgiving Dining** *austinchronicle.com/thanksgiving*

FILM: **Elf Movie Party** Alamo Ritz, 6:30 & 9:10pm

THEATRE: **Potted Potter** Paramount Theatre

MUSIC: **Dale Watson's Thanksgiving**
Continental Club, doors 9pm

27 FRIDAY



ARCHITECTS OF AIR Near the Long Center, 11am-5pm

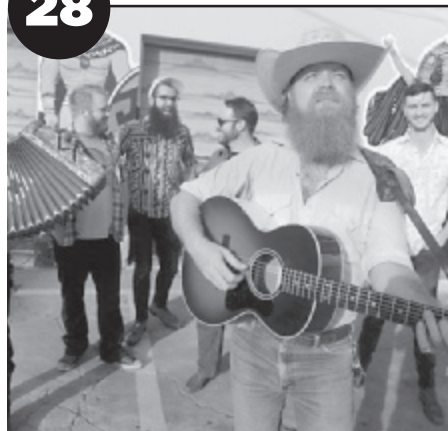
HOLIDAY BAZAARS: **Blue Genie Art Bazaar**
Marchesa Hall, through Dec. 24, 10am-10pm

COMMUNITY: **OptOutside** Violet Crown Trail, 1-3pm

MUSIC: **Ghost Wolves Spanksgiving 2** Mohawk

COMEDY: **Mac Blake** Cap City Comedy Club,
Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm

28 SATURDAY



CROOKS ABGB

COMMUNITY: **Children Giving to Children Parade** Congress Avenue, 11am

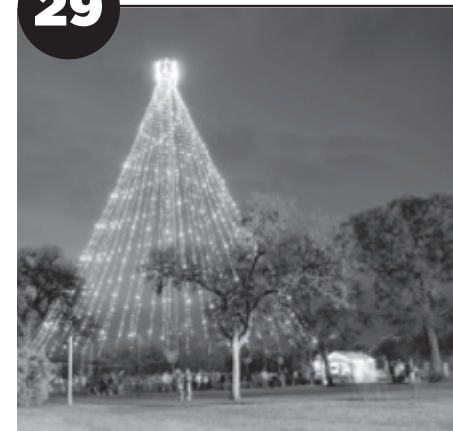
HOLIDAY BAZAARS: **Renegade Craft Fair**
Fair Market, Sat.-Sun., 11am-6pm

FILM: **The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance**
Harry Ransom Center, 3pm

MUSIC: **Big K.R.I.T.** Emo's

MUSIC: **Wild Child** Stubb's

29 SUNDAY



ZILKER HOLIDAY TREE Zilker Park, 6pm

KIDS: **Kids Club Music Hour** Scottish Rite Theatre, 10am

MUSIC: **The Stapletones** Threadgill's World HQ, 11am

HOLIDAY BAZAARS: **Horror for the Holidays**
Spider House Ballroom, noon-7pm

FILM: **The Godfather Double Feature**
Alamo Slaughter, 5pm

FOOD: **An Evening With The Fabulous Beekman Boys** Paramount Theatre, 7:15pm

30 MONDAY

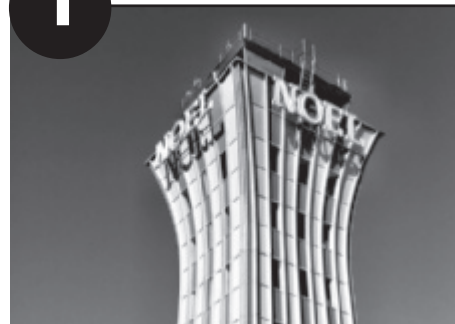


SUZANNA CHOFFEL Geraldine's

FILM: **Sebastiane** Alamo Ritz, 7:15pm

FILM: **The TV West** AFS Screening Room, 8pm

1 TUESDAY



MUELLER TOWER LIGHTING Mueller Control Tower, 6pm

LITERA: **One Page Salon** North Door, 7pm

FILM: **Site Specific: Films by Vera Brunner-Sung** MASS Gallery, 8pm

MUSIC: **Tesseract** Empire Control Room

2 WEDNESDAY



TEXAS STARS Cedar Park Center, 7:30pm

FILM: **Raising Arizona** Alamo Lakeline, 7pm

COMEDY: **The Sting!** King Bee Lounge, 9:30pm

GAY PLACE: **The Notorious RBG Ball** Spider House Ballroom, 10pm

3 THURSDAY



WHISKY FESTIVAL Opal Divine's Penn Field, 7pm

FILM: **Ticket of No Return** Marchesa Hall, 7:30pm

MUSIC: **Brown Sabbath** Bass Concert Hall

MUSIC: **David Bromberg** One World Theatre

MUSIC: **Fogg** Hotel Vegas

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ARTS & CULTURE



Wendell Pierce as Antoine Batiste in HBO's *Treme*

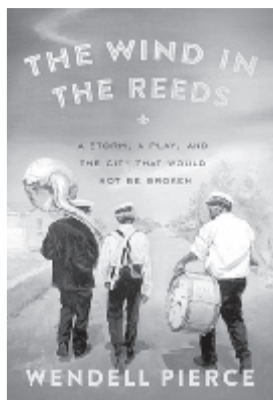
After the Storm, Life

WENDELL PIERCE'S *THE WIND IN THE REEDS* FINDS *GODOT* AND GRATITUDE IN POST-KATRINA NEW ORLEANS **by Robert Faires**

Katrina isn't something one imagines being thankful for. And yet in *The Wind in the Reeds*, Wendell Pierce's book about that storm and the havoc it wreaked on his hometown of New Orleans, about the pain it visited on his family, neighbors, and so many others in the Crescent City, the actor expresses thanks on almost every page. Not thanks for Katrina, naturally, or any of the suffering and devastation left in its wake, but for things the storm revealed to him: about New Orleans' history and his own; about the character of the city's people, especially those in his family; about the legacy he inherited from his parents and his parents' parents and their parents, and all that it means to him; and about art's power to transform people even in the midst of despair. Katrina's flood waters washed over Pierce and exposed anew his deep roots in the city, which inspired him not only to return there but to write about it. In what he calls "the story of my homecoming," Pierce gives a profoundly personal account of life in New Orleans after the deluge but also, tellingly, before it. He wants us to grasp what happened there and what he did by seeing where he came from and how it came to be.

To do that, Pierce goes trawling in some mighty deep waters – personally, politically,

historically, and philosophically. He dives a century and a half into his family's past to lay out their story, starting with his great-grandfather as a slave on a sugarcane plantation in Assumption Parish and swimming forward through time, generation by generation, to show the progress each made and the fortitude of his forebears that



THE WIND IN THE REEDS: A STORM, A PLAY, AND THE CITY THAT WOULD NOT BE BROKEN

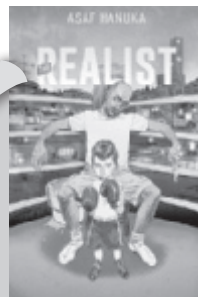
by Wendell Pierce with Rod Dreher
Riverhead Books, 352 pp., \$27.95

made it possible. He doesn't simply share tales of his boyhood in Pontchartrain Park, he shares the background of the subdivision itself, with a rigorously detailed history of real estate developments in New Orleans and the role race played in them to supply context. And whether he's discussing life lessons gleaned from his beloved parents, his education and career as an actor, or the trials and traumas faced by New Orleanians rebuilding their city after Katrina, Pierce draws on wisdom from Western culture heavy hitters; Dostoyevsky, Dante, de Tocqueville, Balzac, Faulkner, and T.S. Eliot all make appearances, not to mention Samuel Beckett, whose *Waiting for Godot*

provides both an illuminating example of art's power and a catalyst for Pierce's return.

Godot doesn't have a rep for being upbeat. Its bleak sentiments – expressed in such lines as "Nothing to be done" and "They give birth astride of a grave, the light gleams for an instant, then it's night once more" – might seem cold comfort to a populace beaten into despair by Katrina's ravages. But when Pierce performs *Godot* on the ruined streets of the Lower Ninth Ward and Gentilly neighborhood two years after the storm, he discovers that his fellow citizens feel a kinship with the play's tramps, with the abandonment they face and the dawning sense that no savior is ever coming to their aid. This is the world New Orleanians inhabit now, and seeing its reflection onstage is, in a sense, heartening: Someone is speaking for them, articulating their griefs and desperation. And also telling them they mustn't lose sight of their opportunity to act. The words that ring most potently in Pierce's own ears are those he speaks as Didi: "Let us do something, while we have the chance! ... At this place, at this moment of time, all mankind is us, whether we like it or not. Let us make the most of it, before it is too late!" To him, it's "a prophet's incantation and a call to arms," and it rouses him to "keep faith" with all the New Orleanians who preceded him and on whose shoulders he stands, to honor them and the people of the Crescent City, living and dead, by returning there and joining the efforts to rebuild. Yes, it's insanely hard and trying, with obstacles at every turn – which Pierce catalogs with an open disdain for the politicians and bureaucrats who erect them – but he finds another mantra among his lines from *Godot*: "What's the good of losing heart now?"

Pierce doesn't lose heart. Rather, he takes it from people around him, especially once David Simon, creator of *The Wire*, chooses to follow that Baltimore-based HBO series with one set in New Orleans and gives Pierce – his priceless Bunk Moreland on *The Wire* – the plum role of trombonist Antoine Batiste. Pierce details the care that Simon and the *Treme* production team took to get the story right – consulting longtime residents



INKLING

Wayne Alan Brenner on *The Realist*, by Asaf Hanuka: "You could be illiterate and still revel in the visual artistry this many-talented man creates. ... A person could remove the texts and the outlines and just sit, transfixed as ever, by Hanuka's impeccably balanced and stunningly diverse color palette." austinchronicle.com/daily/arts

SOON



ONE PAGE SALON has jumped the river, shifting from South Austin's Whip In to North Austin's North Door, but don't imagine that Owen Egerton's monthly showcase of works-in-progress has also jumped the shark. With contributions this month by radio luminary Charlie Hodge, design maven Rebekah Gainsley, thrift empress Bernadette Noll, award-winning actor Helen Merino, and playwright/storyteller Nettie Reynolds, it's an entertainment banquet. Tue., Dec. 1, 7pm. 502 Brushy. www.facebook.com/onepagesalon

who had their fingers on the city's pulse; documenting all the sorrow, absurdity, rage, and resilience of life post-Katrina; working to represent New Orleans culture authentically – and how the city responded, watching each episode as a communal ritual, a form of group therapy that helped New Orleans "rediscover its song."

One can imagine this book being penned from a different, more commercial angle: *Treme* in tight close-up, spinning behind-the-camera anecdotes about the creators and cast, with New Orleans as background color. But it takes only a few pages to comprehend that *this* was the book Pierce had to write. The story of his homecoming is the story of everyone who had a hand in creating the home he was coming back to – his parents, grandparents, other relatives, teachers, fellow actors, David Simon – and in coming home he realized how much of a hand they had in making him who he is, and that he needed to thank them. That sense of debt and gratitude should resonate in anyone, especially at the time of year when we reflect on the blessings in our lives. That Wendell Pierce wrote *The Wind in the Reeds* just as it is, is something to be thankful for. ■

ONLINE // GUZZY GALLERY'S "STRANGE BEASTS" | AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/ARTS

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Support for the exhibition at the Blanton is provided in part by Isabella Hutchinson and Diego Gradowczyk. Media Sponsor: Univision

Alfredo Boulton, *Pampatar*, ca. 1953, Photograph of the living room of Alfredo Boulton's beach house, Margarita Island, Venezuela, designed by Miguel Arroyo, Collection: Fundación Alberto Vollmer, Caracas

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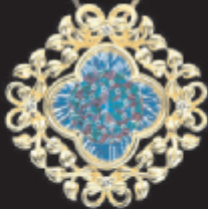
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ARTS LISTINGS

Lear Lives!

The History of King Lear, a reviled revision of Shakespeare, proves fascinating as revived by the Hidden Room Theatre

BY ROBERT FAIRES

Slap a happy ending on *King Lear*? Deface this titanic tragedy of Western lit by keeping alive Lear and his youngest daughter, then wedding her to Gloucester's noble son?

Yes, that's just what Nahum Tate did 75 years after Shakespeare penned the play, and despite the fact that his revision was well-received at the time – and for 150 years afterward – for the last two centuries this Restoration-era poet laureate, like Lear's loyal manservant in the play, has been pilloried for his insolence. And what's interesting about that is, so many Shakespearean purists who have railed about Tate's hatchet job on *Lear* have done so based solely on secondhand information. Though the text is readily available, few people have taken the time to read it, and it's almost never staged today. And therein lies the initial fascination of the Hidden Room Theatre's latest deep-dive into theatrical arcana: Artistic Director Beth Burns and her company are allowing those of us raised to consider Tate's *Lear* an abomination the opportunity to see it and judge its quality for ourselves.

The results may surprise you, as they did this avowed devotee of Shakespeare's tragedy. For while much has been made of Tate refashioning *Lear* to fit Restoration England's genteel sensibilities, he retains much of the treachery and brutality that fueled the Elizabethan version. The bastard Edmund still frames his brother Edgar in a plot to kill their father, then betrays the old man himself. Lear's daughters Goneril and Regan still scheme against their father and each other, vying for sole control of Britain and the heart (and bed) of the bastard. Most shockingly, Cornwall still gouges out the eyes of Edgar



THE HISTORY OF KING LEAR
York Rite Masonic Hall,
311 W. Seventh
www.hiddenroomtheatre.com
Through Nov. 29
Running time: 2 hr., 30 min.

and Edmund's father in full view of the audience. And the swift collapse of Lear's kingdom into violent chaos still drives the aged monarch into a raging storm and beyond the brink of madness. To discover that this isn't such a kinder, gentler play after all adds to its fascination.

That said, there is a rarified air to Tate's *Lear*, especially in the Hidden Room's staging. Burns and her sterling production team have striven for fidelity to Restoration presentation, in not only the elaborately curled wigs and opulent gowns and tailcoats worn by the actors (luxuriously realized by Jenny McNee and Jennifer Rose Davis), but also the way they move, with codified gestures articulating their characters' feelings just as their words do – an index finger pointed at the temple, hands covering the eyes, a hand laid over the heart. This is as heightened and precise as a court dance, placing us in a society leagues from the primal, stark ones often seen in 20th century *Lears*; this is a civilized realm where ornamentation is prized – for its meaning as much as its decorative appeal. It fosters something of that mythic remove of the fairy tale, but these “once upon a time” characters feel no less human for it. That's because the actors here do an admirable job of balancing gestural artifice and emotional truth. When Cordelia refuses to profess love for her father in exchange for her inheritance – Julia Lorenz-Olson imbuing the character with more backbone and resourcefulness than is frequently seen – Lear's fury is real, thanks to the fluidity with which Ryan Crowder integrates his poses of outrage with the honest anger in his voice and face. And when Lear later reunites with her, their reconciliation is a tender intertwining of hearts and hands.



Beyond the brink of madness: The crazed Lear (Ryan Crowder) embraced by the blinded Gloucester (Robert Matney)

Indeed, in the feeling expressed in that scene and the ones that follow, with Lear fighting off the servants who would kill Cordelia and giving her his crown, Tate's *Lear* seems less to prefigure Beckett's bleak dramas, as Shakespeare's does, than the romances the Bard himself wrote in the years after *Lear*: *Pericles*, *Cymbeline*, *The Winter's Tale*, *The Tempest* – all possessing fairy-tale horrors, coincidences, and reunions sweetened with forgiveness and regeneration. The Hidden Room's dedication to giving Tate's *Lear* a fair hearing, and the skill of the actors, designers, musicians, and Burns in creating one, have revealed a revision closer in spirit to Shakespeare than its notorious reputation suggests. If Will had waited just a few more seasons to pen *Lear*, he might have written Tate's version himself. ■

THEATRE

OPENING

RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER

The beloved TV classic is translated to the live stage in all its familiar wonderment – lock, stock, and Yukon Cornelius – maybe to become a cherished tradition in its own right. *Nov. 27-29. Fri., 7pm; Sat., 2 & 7pm; Sun., 2pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 512/457-5100. \$24 and up. www.thelongcenter.org.*

READING: THE TANGERINE TREE

Dave Buckman produces and directs the first of three live readings for potential 2016 production, this time unveiling Bonnie Cordova's post-apocalyptic comedy with a top-notch cast. *Tue., Dec. 1, 8:30pm. ColdTowne Theater, 4803-B Airport, 512/814-8696. Free. www.coldtownetheater.com.*

TEATRO VIVO: LA PASTORELA

Teatro Vivo presents the traditional holiday play, here in a bilingual adaptation by Rupert Reyes, that follows the shepherds as they travel to Bethlehem to witness the birth of Jesus. *Dec. 3-20. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River. \$12-20. www.teatrovivo.org.*

CLOSING

THE HISTORY OF KING LEAR BY NAHUM TATE

See review, above. *Through Nov. 29. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. York Rite Temple, 311 W. Seventh. \$20-30. www.hiddenroomtheatre.com.*



POTTED POTTER All seven Harry Potter books (and a real life game of Quidditch) condensed into 70 hilarious minutes? Yeah, totally – you've got to see this zany shit to believe it, muggle, and we reckon the devastating duo of Daniel Clarkson and Jefferson Turner will have you laughing all the way to Diagon Alley and back again. *Multiple times, Tue.-Sun., through Nov. 29. See website for details. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 512/472-5470. \$32-102. www.austintheatre.org.*

ONGOING

THE PHILADELPHIA STORY

Sure an' you know the George Cukor-helmed movie version of this thing, right – with Cary Grant and James Stewart and

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Dec. 3-19. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm; Sun., 8pm. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo edit, 512/476-7833. \$25 (\$15, students). www.rudemechs.com.

Katharine Hepburn? Could this live Austin Playhouse production from Philip Barry's script possibly be as, um, yar? With a fine cast featuring Benjamin Summers as Mike Connor, Jason Newman as C.K. Dexter Haven, and Lara Toner as Tracy Lord, and all directed by Don Toner, we'd say there's a cracking good chance. *Through Dec. 20. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, ACC Highland, 6001 Airport, 512/476-0084. \$28-35. www.austinplayhouse.com.*

STEEL MAGNOLIAS Robert Harling's wisecracking and wise Southern comedy serves up life, love, and laughter as warm and comforting as sweet potato pie. Directed by Andy Berkovsky. *Through Jan. 3. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. City Theatre, 3823-D Airport, 512/524-2870. \$15-25 (\$10, Thursdays). www.citytheatreaustin.org.*

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A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE See review, p.39. *Through Dec. 6. Thu.-Sun., 7:30pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 512/457-5100. \$24 and up (\$18, students). www.thelongcenter.org.*

THE WILD PARTY In this crazed romp, set in Manhattan in the Roaring Twenties, a vaudeville performer and her volatile partner host an evening of excess for their friends – a collection of the unruly and undone. Directed by Cara Phipps for UT's Texas Theatre & Dance. *Through Nov. 22: Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 2 & 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Dec. 1-5: Tue-Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 2 & 7:30pm. Oscar G. Brockett Theatre, Winship Drama Building, 23rd & San Jacinto, 512/477-6060. \$15-26.*

DRACULA Steven Dietz's adaptation of the creepy Bram Stoker classic is directed by Melissa Vogt for Different Stages and features JM Specht as the Count. *Through Dec. 12. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 6pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 512/478-5282. \$15-30. www.vortexrep.org.*

AUDITIONS

THE REALISTIC JONESES Hyde Park Theatre is casting this new Will Eno play, to be directed by Ken Webster. Roles are available for John (male 25-35) and Pony (female 25-35). (Note: The older couple has been cast.) Run dates are February 25 - March 26, 2016. Actors will be paid. Email for appointment or details. *Sat., Nov. 28. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 512/479-7529. www.hydeparktheatre.org.*

A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

**Rollins Studio Theatre
at the Long Center,
701 W. Riverside
www.austinshakespeare.org
Through Dec. 6
Running time: 2 hr., 40 min.**

Austin stages are flush this fall with productions of Pulitzer Prize winners. Austin Shakespeare gave us a luminous *Sundays in the Park With George* ('85), the University of Texas shone with *The Diary of Anne Frank* ('56), St. Edward's University wowed audiences with *To Kill a Mockingbird* (novel, '61), and now comes Austin Shakespeare with Tennessee Williams' *A Streetcar Named Desire* ('48). Unlike the well-executed museum production just seen at St. Ed's, this show has audiences checking their pre-conceived notions at the Rollins Theatre door. Expectations are of no use here, and a little digging exposes a thoughtful take on Williams' classic.

For over half a century, directors have been challenged by *Streetcar*'s first question: Whose story is this? Blanche's? Stanley's? Stella's? There's not necessarily a "right" answer; the choice simply lays the foundation on which the production is built. Austin Shakespeare Artistic Director Ann Ciccolella takes a calculated risk in choosing "none of the above," embracing metaphor and subtly pitting the New North against the Old South – a seldom used yet compelling idea that's certainly worthy of exploration given the current sociopolitical climate of galvanized divisiveness. Viewed through this lens, the gamble pays off handsomely. The onstage world of New Orleans into which Blanche DuBois steps is a melting pot of colorful denizens, each sporting an over-the-counter dialect (nimble crafted by Robert Ramirez) ranging from Chicagoan to New Yorker, all decidedly Northern, in stark contrast to Blanche's plantation Southern voice and demeanor. From her first entrance onto Leslie Ann Turner's genre-defying set, which seamlessly blends a realistic interior with a jagged, unfinished, partially suggested perimeter, Gwendolyn Kelso's Blanche is a perfect relic of the South. Kelso keenly presents Blanche's descent into madness, painstakingly layering her performance with confusion, denial, and the charm that has worked well so far, but like the South itself, is losing its luster. As Stanley Kowalski, Andrew Hutcheson conveys the brutish, industrialist North in all its horrifying blue-collar glory. I don't envy an actor stepping into such iconic, Brando-sized shoes (which is not to say that Vivien Leigh's shoes aren't as difficult a fit), but Hutcheson easily puts his own mark on Stanley with a shrewd intensity, more cunning than beastly. That intensity seems to wane after Blanche's rape, possibly a deliberate choice to convey embarrassment and shame; an acknowledgment of what the North has



BRET BROOKSHIRE

done, though not an apology. Blanche's beau, Mitch – played fantastically by Michael Miller – rings as delightfully innocent. He is a pawn in Blanche's game, the last fly caught in her final web, and Miller's performance is natural, quirky, and awkward in all the right places. Amber Quick absolutely shines as Stella Kowalski, bringing a strong and sassy sense of absolute agency not always associated with the role. Here, Stella perhaps represents reason itself: a sense of a tired America just ready to move back toward stasis, torn between polar opposites incapable of admitting its own faults. Quick's Stella is aware of everything around her and does not require our pity.

A strong supporting cast rounds out the production, including Hannah Rose Barfoot as Eunice and Jason Graf as Steve, the Kowalskis' upstairs neighbors. Talena Martinez's costuming is appropriate and timely, and the fight choreography by fellow AMDA-Panda Kevin Squires is believable in its barely restrained viciousness. Patrick W. Anthony's lighting design works well around some jutting obstacles. Sam Kokajko's sound design is a mixed bag, often complementing scenes well, but unnecessarily attempting to steer the audience emotionally at a few key points.

Ciccolella's command of Williams' wit and lyricism lends itself well to this telling. Williams may or may not have intended this sort of interpretation, but it certainly exists within the text for those who care to find it. And those who do will likely find compelling parallels to our current world, where many cannot even agree to disagree. Interestingly enough, this production doesn't seem to paint anyone as the "hero" or "winner," but simply presents an angle that should satisfy intellectually and dramatically. – Shanon Weaver

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www.co-labprojects.org
 Through Nov. 28

Co-Lab is back – sort of. The Eastside gallery has been struggling to open its new location for months, with a grand reopening now promised for 2016. Until then, Executive Director Sean Gaulager and crew have taken up residence in Canopy, adjacent to Big Medium’s now-flagship gallery. “Life Machine,” their third exhibition in the temporary space (preceded by “Art of the Brew” and “Summer School”), focuses on artist Angelbert Metoyer, a self-proclaimed nomad who hails from Houston, having shown at both the Project Row Houses and CAM Houston earlier in his career. Metoyer’s extemporaneous style has earned him notice outside Texas – with multimedia exhibitions at Miami’s Art Basel and the Dactyl Foundation, as well as collaborations with contemporary poet Saul Williams and hip-hop artist Mike Ladd – but now Metoyer is back in his home state, with work in two local shows running concurrently: the Contemporary Austin’s “Strange Pilgrims,” on view through Jan. 24, and “Life Machine,” developed by Co-Lab in partnership with the Contemporary.

“Life Machine” explores the idols, language, and music of religion, and, as such, the gallery space has been transformed into a temporal tomb. With blacked-out windows, the gallery pulses to the beat of Metoyer’s noise collages. *B.L.A.C.K.I.E. (snake island)*, *last night of sleep*, a sculpture consisting of an American flag and various speakers taken from the Houston rapper Blackie, spits out a droning score created by the artist. A bloody doll nestles inside a cattle’s skull in another work. Metoyer’s marble slab tables reveal Grecian-inspired illustrations. A wooden

The Indigo King (1998), by Angelbert Metoyer



MARK NEWSOME

frame opens to reveal mud cloth illustrations overlaying a portrait while a blue idol’s head, encased in glass, sits at its base. The intricate multimedia work continues in a second room, where the aesthetics are somewhat lighter, but the tone remains subdued.

The entire effect of “Life Machine” is dizzying, and that’s arguably the appropriate condition in which to unpack theology. Metoyer confronts the varying duplicities of religion with a softened reverence, using the worn iconography to tell a new story. “Life Machine” offers “remnants of personality and spirit” from Metoyer’s ancestry. For the artist, religion offers as many questions as it does answers in regard to identity and purpose, especially within the larger discussion of race and Blackness in America. – Caitlin Greenwood

COMEDY

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research #100, 512/467-2333. www.capcitycomedy.com.

MAC BLAKE

Somebody’s gotta entertain the Cap City crowds over the Thanksgiving weekend, and lucky for our laugh-hungry citizens that it’s this guy, **2013’s Funniest Person In Austin**, co-conspirator of **Master Pancake** and the **Stag! Comedy** troupe, stellar attraction at **SXSW Comedy** and **Moontower** and Montreal’s **Just for Laughs**, and – oh, you know, right? Local man’s got it going on. Local man’s gonna kick your ass with his stand-up stylings. Somebody’s opening for him, too, this weekend – but they ain’t told us yet. **Fri.-Sat., Nov. 27-28, 8 & 10:30pm. \$10-19.**

ALINGON MITRA Winner of the Boston Comedy Festival and the “Funniest Comic in New England” honors, this man Mitra’s gonna crack your Texas-based ass up, with **Rojo Perez** opening. **Dec. 2-5. Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.**



COLDTOWNE THEATER 4803-B Airport, 512/814-8696. www.coldtownetheater.com.

COOLER HEADS PREVAIL

Check out what’s happening in this down-the-road-from-that-burger-joint hotbed of comedy: **Movie Riot** They’re making up movies, totally improvised and fast and wayyyy fucking *furious*, and they’re handing out free margaritas and candy. **Fri., 7pm. \$5-8. Bad Boys**, featuring good improv by boys who are, well, *not* all that socially passive, let’s say. Now with **Brain Trust. Fri., 8:30pm. \$5-8. Stand-Up Live** Good comic walks into a bar, FPIA champion **Danny Palumbo** throws him (or her) onstage. **Fri., 10pm. \$5-8. What’s the Story, Steve?** Family-friendly improv featuring Steven, the improvising poodle. **Sat., 10am. Free. Your Redneck Family** Yee-haw and pass the pork rinds, Skeeter! **Sat., 8:30pm. \$5-8. The Frank Mills** and their smart, character-driven improv, with the sketchers of **Midnight Society. Sat., 10pm. \$5-8. Stool Pigeon** Local version of the UCB’s Asssscat, with special guests. **Sun., 8:30pm. \$5.** And on Wednesdays, don’t miss the seductive improv of **Loverboy. Wed., 8:30pm. \$5.**

ESTHER’S FOLLIES 525 E. Sixth, 512/320-0553. www.estherfollies.com.

SILLY SOLSTICE Musical comedy skits, magic, and a **political satirical revue** with the bustling backdrop of Sixth Street on view through the stagefront window! **So many rollicking send-ups** as the troupe’s November comedy campaign explodes with new laughs and legendary lampoons, with “**Guns of Texas**” proving that nothing can come between a Texan and her guns – especially with **Celebrity Open Carry** – and **the Church**

of Austintology teaches what it takes to be a true Austin hipster, according to the daft directives of one **L. Ron Hipster!** Bonus: the large-scale wonders and arch antics of magician **Ray Anderson**, featuring his fiery new illusion, “Torched!” Reservations recommended. **Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$25-35.**

THE HIDEOUT THEATRE 617 Congress, 512/443-3688. www.hideouttheatre.com.

IT’S ... HIDEOUTRAGEOUS! Yes, the Hideout’s been around for a while, now – but good-gawdamighty they’re fresher than ever: **Control Issues** You’re in the driver’s seat here, bae. **Fri., 7:30pm. \$5. The Big Bash** Some of the best improv performers in town invite you to this fancy party on the stage. **Fri., 8pm. \$15. Maestro RAW** The students versus the students, FTW. **Sat., 6pm. \$7. Boy Howdy** It’s like *Gunsmoke*, it’s like *Bonanza*, it’s improv gone all vintage TV Western. **Sat., 8pm. \$12. Maestro** A whole stageful of wild imps, battling for victory. *Always* recommended, especially if it’s your first time seeing live improv. **Sat., 10pm. \$12. The Weekender** Student showcases, veteran vehicles, and more. **Sun., 8pm. \$5.**

THE NEW MOVEMENT 616 Lavaca, 512/788-2669. www.newmovementtheater.com.

IT’S ... SUBTERRANEAN! Yes, it’s the underground space Downtown, swarming with improvisers and stand-up comics and so on, and, according to *TNM’s website*, **they’re open (with pay-what-you-wish shows) on Thanksgiving: Student Union** Ah, solidarity! **Thu., 7pm. Lights Up** Three improv troupes. **Thu., 8pm. Block Party** Comedy open mic, hosted by **Terance McDavid** and **Yusef Roach. Thu., 9:30pm. Leftovers** Improv, sketch, stand-up, *all* the comedy. **Fri., 7:30 & 9pm. \$5. Stoned vs. Drunk vs. Sober** ‘Zackly what it shays onna tin, fool. Hosts: **Rob Gagnon** and **Lisa Friedrich. Fri., 10:30pm. \$7-10. Megan Simon EP Fundraiser** Solo! Musical! Sketch! **Sat., 7:30pm. \$5. Bad Example** Reckon everybody needs a Bad Example in their lives – and this may be exactly the right one for us all. **Sat., 9pm. \$7-10. The Megaphone Show** True stories, truthfully told and then twisted beyond redemption. **Sat., 10:30pm. \$5.** And, yessss, **Rob Gagnon** brings his berserk buddies into the **Sandbox** on Tuesdays, the **Opposites** work the Wednesday night slot, and – see website for more.

BUT WAIT – THERE’S MORE!

YOU’RE LOOKING FOR ... WHAT? OPEN MICS? There’s a lot of them in Austin, brothers and sisters. Sometimes there’s as many as 25 in one week. And comedian **Joe Faina** has been to *all* of them – find out what he found out, in your *Chronicle* online.

ATX TONIGHT: HOLIDAY BENEFIT SHOW **Chris Sebillia** hosts this variety show, featuring comedian **Jay Whitecotton**, the **Poetic Butcher**, and a musical guest. **Sat., Nov. 28, 10pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 818/293-5492. \$10 (\$7, in advance).** www.atxtonightshow.com/benefit.

SURE THING A carefully curated comedy cavalcade – as hosted by **Brendan K. O’Grady** and **Duncan Carson**, featuring tonight’s hottest locals: **Chris Tellez**, **Derek Phelps**, and **Vanessa Gonzales**; and, all the way from NYC where he skewered the Pizza Rat on the point of his finest Iberian blade, **Tito Garza. Sat., Nov. 28, 8pm. Austin Java, 1206 Parkway, 512/476-1829. Free. www.surethingrecords.com.**

THE STING! It’s a night of free laughs, featuring **Ralphie Hardesty**, **Kat Ramzinski**, **Jay Whitecotton**, **Yusef Roach**, and **Martha Kelly**. And the whole thing is **hosted by Chris Cubas** – on a Wednesday night, no less. Verdict: total comedy win. **Wed., Dec. 2, 9:30pm. King Bee Lounge, 1906 E. 12th. Free. twitter.com.**

DANCE

LOOKING FOR DANCE CLASSES? Swing? Ballet? Tango? Pole-dancing? We’ve got a myriad of classes listed online, all manner of schools waiting to get your feet firmly on the floor to joyful moves.

DANCE ANOTHER WORLD SHOWCASE AID students perform multicultural dances as part of this fundraising celebration that also features a silent auction. **Thu., Dec. 3, 7pm. Stateside at the Paramount, 719 Congress, 512/507-6408. \$25. www.austinthetheatrealliance.org.**



INSTITUTION THEATER 3708 Woodbury, 512/895-9580. www.theinstitutiontheater.com.

IT’S ... INSTITUTIONAL! The **Passover Cure** You’ve, what? Seen the story of Passover before? Not like this: Here’s the biblical story of Moses and Aaron, **as conveyed through the lyrical mastery of Robert Smith of the Cure**, without a single word changed. Yeah, for reals. Written by **Courtney Hopkin**, directed by **Asaf Ronen**, performed by a fine cast. **Fri.-Sat., Nov. 27-28, 8pm. \$10. Terrible People** A sketch show about the kind of human assholes we all have to deal with. *cough* Not you, of course, citizen – it’s not at all about you, right? Come see for yourself! **Fri., Nov. 27, 10pm. \$10. Booker & a Buddy** Institution honcho **Tom Booker** teams up with a friend for one helluva improvised show. **Sat., Nov. 28, 10pm. \$5.**

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MUSICAL CONNECTIONS: TROIKA The Russian piano duo **Anya Grokhovski** and **Alena Gorina**, accompanied by violinist **Mark Cheikhnet**, present highlights from the Golden Era repertoire of Kreisler, Rachmaninoff, and more. **Thu., Dec. 3, 7:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 512/452-6168. \$20 (\$10, students, seniors).** www.musicalconnections.net.

VISUAL ARTS

EVENTS

IN DANGER (OR, YOU SHOULD REALLY, REALLY GIVE A SHIT): CLOSING POTLUCK & SOCIAL It’s a gallery tradition to close each show with a community potluck, and that’s true for the closing of this **Endangered Species** exhibition at **Art.Science.Gallery**. Coolers, ice, and eco-friendly compostable cutlery will be provided. Note: This event is kid-friendly, but leave your pets at home. Bonus: Free gallery stickers to those who bring their own reusable plates, cups, or utensils. **Sat., Nov. 28, 6-8pm. In the Canopy compound, 916 Springdale #102, 512/522-8278. Free. www.artsciencegallery.com.**

ROGER HIORNS INTERACTIVE FOAM SCULPTURE: ACTIVATE! You wanna roam through the foam in the **Contemporary Austin’s** home away from home? (Note: It’s part of the excellent “Strange Pilgrims” exhibition.) Check this schedule of opportunities, citizen: **Through Jan. 24. Tue., 4pm; Sat.-Sun., 1pm. 3809 W. 35th, 512/458-8191. www.thecontemporaryaustin.org.**

ARCHITECTS OF AIR: PENTALUM Stop by the Long Center to enter this newest **luminarium**, an enormous walk-through sculpture in which glowing seams create “a scintillating lattice of light and color, a neon spectacle of beauty.” Imagine if the Taj Mahal and God’s Favorite Kaleidoscope had an inflatable baby; now come navigate its brilliant innards. Note: Ages 16 and younger must be accompanied by an adult. **Through Nov. 29. Mon.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-5pm. Note: closed on Thanksgiving. 701 W. Riverside, 512/457-5100. \$8-12. www.thelongcenter.org.**

OPENING

DJ STOUT: VARIATIONS ON A RECT-ANGLE The globally acclaimed wizard of graphic wonder is celebrated in a retrospective that features 30 years of his graphic designs for **Texas Monthly** to **Pentagram. Thu., Dec. 3, 7pm. The Wittliff Collections in Alkek Library, TSU-San Marcos. www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu.**

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THE SANTALAND DIARIES

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By David Sedaris

Adapted for the stage by Joe Mantello

Directed by Abe Reybold

Starring Martin Burke,
Meredith McCall, and Jason Conner.

Now through December 27
Whisenhunt Stage

Martin Burke (L) as Crumpet and Harvey Guion as Scrooge. Photos: KirkTuck.com

Or Nice?

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

A Rockin' Family Musical

By Charles Dickens

Adapted and Directed by Dave Steakley

Musical Direction by Allen Robertson

Choreography by Christa Oliver-Torres

Starring Harvey Guion, Chanel Haynes-Schwartz,
Roderick Sanford, Michael Valentine, and Kenny Williams.

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CEREBRAPHILE That ever-provocative brainlover Ms RAZ presents an art-science exhibition of more than 50 brain illustrations, projection photographs, and interactive installations that invite viewers to engage with their own cerebrums. Recommended, especially if you've got a hungry hungry hippocampus. Reception: *Thu., Dec. 3, 5-6:30pm. UT's Psychology Building, 108 E. Dean Keeton.* www.ms-raz.com.

CLOSING

CO-LAB POP-UP: LIFE MACHINE Right there in the midst of Austin's art-filled Canopy complex, the nomadic New Orleans-born artist **Angelbert Metoyer** presents an installation that includes video, mirrors that have been edged with the human body, and remains/reminders of personality and spirit in clothing and personal objects. **Closing reception with full-color catalog release:** *Sat., Nov. 28, 7-11pm. 916 Springdale.* www.co-labprojects.org.

LAST DEPOT BEFORE DESOLATION Colin McIntyre Sculpture Studio's newest work, an assemblage art installation and sound environment, is displayed in an unoccupied train station built in the early 1900s. If you missed experiencing this compelling project during EAST, here's your last two chances. Open viewing: *Sat., Nov. 28, 2-6pm. Closing reception: Fri., Dec. 4, 8-11pm. 979 Springdale.* www.sculptureforge.com.

THE RUSSELL COLLECTION: SALVADOR DALÍ ARGILLET COLLECTION Featuring more than 100 pieces of art by the notorious Surrealist. *Through Nov. 28. 1137 W. Sixth, 512/478-4440.* www.russell-collection.com.

WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: PINNING DOWN THE ELUSIVE IS TRICKY BUSINESS Oh, hell yes, we love **Malcolm Bucknall's** work – even when it's *not* featured on a Jesus Lizard or Nirvana album cover. And here comes that Bucknall again, after a too-long absence, with new pieces and old, with an entire menagerie of fantastic paintings to pique your art-loving sense of wonder. Recommended. *Through Nov. 28. 1202 W. Sixth, 512/472-7428.* www.wallyworkmangallery.com.

ONGOING

AVAA: MEMBERS SHOW The Austin Visual Arts Association celebrates 38 years of art and promotion with this new exhibition, featuring work by **Melanie Lewis, Hank Waddell, Neena Buxani,** and more. *7739-Q Northcross, 512/970-1700.* www.austinartspace.com.

BUTRIDGE GALLERY: MINDSCAPES We've mentioned before in these pages how beautiful the digitally manipulated and materially embellished photographic work of **Leslie Kell** is. And it's been a while since our city's had the opportunity to feast its eyes on such a diverse array of it. Weep no more, sad fountains – here's a brand new show. *Through Jan. 2. 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 512/974-4000.* www.austintexas.gov.

DAVIS GALLERY: HOLIDAY SHOWCASE The walls are decked with works by gallery regulars – **Lisa Beaman, Faustinus Deraet, Randall Reid, David Everett, Caprice Pierucci, Chun Hui Pak, Malou Flato, Sam Yeates,** and many others – to create an art-lover's dream of viewing and high-end gifting pleasure. *Through Jan. 6. 837 W. 12th, 512/477-4929.* www.davisgalleryaustin.com.

GALLERY SHOAL CREEK: FIVE DECADES DEFINING ART This superlative bastion of visual art has been bringing Austin beauty and brilliance for 50 years – with **Judith Taylor** at the helm for 25 of those years – and now here's a panoply of excellent work from 20 gallery regulars. *2832 E. MLK, 512/454-6671.*

GUZU GALLERY: STRANGE BEASTS 3 It's the third iteration of this popular series, with another graphically powerful tribute to giant monsters (you know: **kaiju**) and Japanese pop culture, decking the walls with terrifying wonder there in Guzu Gallery right next to Austin Books & Comics. *5000 N. Lamar, 512/454-4898.* www.guzugallery.com.

KATHRYN GOODNITE GALLERY This new gallery on West Sixth opens with contemporary work by **James Verbicky, Paul Rouso, Joseph Adolphe, Chris Hayman, Cecil Touchon,** and **Katherine Houston. *1207 W. Sixth, 281/799-9367.* www.kathryngoodnite.com.**

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: JIM TOROK & ROY MCMAKIN Two new exhibitions by two superlative artists. *360 Nueces #50, 512/215-4965.* www.lorareynolds.com.

MUSEUM OF NATURAL & ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERATA This place, ah, it's one of our favorite places in the entire city; and now, after a brief hiatus, the curators are back and offering guided tours by appointment. *Saturdays. 1808 Singleton, 512/320-0566. \$5.* www.mnae.org.

PHOTO METHODE GALLERY: CHILD OF THE MISSISSIPPI Kevin Greenblat's photography affirms Louisiana as an integral part of our national identity. Reception: *Through Dec. 12. 2830 E. MLK, 512/294-9550.* www.photomethode.com.

THE CONTEMPORARY AUSTIN: STRANGE PILGRIMS This multivenue exhibition, organized by the Contemporary Austin's **Heather Pesanti,** features 14 international artists – **Charles Atlas, Trisha Baga, Andy Coolquitt, Nancy Holt, Lakes Were Rivers, Bruce Nauman,** and **Yoko Ono** among them – with works presented as “a journey through time, space, imagination, and the senses.” At the **Jones Center (700 Congress)** and **Laguna Gloria (3809 W. 35th)** and throughout the galleries of UT's **Visual Arts Center (23rd & Trinity).** www.thecontemporaryaustin.org.

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: COMPARTMENTS OF DESIRE Here's an arresting show of creation, an exhibition of new work by **Alyssa Taylor Wendt** that incorporates a diversity of media to explore **sexuality, fetishism, power,** and **desire.** *Through Jan. 14. 1710 Lavaca, 512/477-1064.* www.womenandtheirwork.org.

YARD DOG FOLK ART: BOB SCHNEIDER Yes, that Bob Schneider. If you didn't know already, the man's skill and vision in visual arts might even eclipse his musical accomplishments. And now this new “Heroes” show – of **mixed-media collaged portraits** – adds another impressive level to what this one talented guy can do. *Through Jan. 3. 1510 S. Congress, 512/912-1613.* www.yarddog.com.

LITERA

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

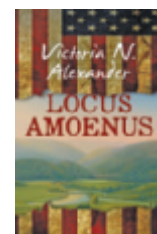
VICTORIA ALEXANDER: LOCUS AMOENUS The author presents her provocative new book. *Fri., Nov. 27, 7pm. Brave New Books, 1904-B Guadalupe (downstairs), 512/480-2503.* www.bravenew-bookstore.com.

GLENN HARDIN The legendary Liberty Lunch and Chicago House poetry host visits Austin's favorite versified venue with readings of his own work. *Fri., Nov. 27, 7pm. Malvern Books, 613 W. 29th.* www.malvernbooks.com.

TESTIFY: POTLUCK There's no theme for this show – anything goes! With your storytellers **Marcellus Cadd, Katie Goan, Jennifer Hill Robenalt, Eric Hunt,** and **Sarah Lankenau. *Fri., Nov. 27, 7:30pm. Spider House Ballroom, 2906 Fruth, 512/480-9562. \$5-6.* www.testifyatx.com.**

BOOKPEOPLE READINGS Mitch Albom The bestselling author presents his new novel, **The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto.** *Tue., Dec. 1, 7pm. Michael Fry and Bradley Jackson* The celebrated local authors present their kid-friendly novel of Santalicious shenanigans, **The Naughty List.** *Thu., Dec. 3, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 512/472-5050.* www.bookpeople.com.

ONE PAGE SALON Yes, it's Owen Egerton's popular monthly literary shindig, where authors read just one page from a new work. This festive night sees presentations from **Charlie Hodge, Rebekah Gainsley, Bernadette Noll, Nettie Reynolds,** and **Helen Merino.** “Quick readings, slow drinking.” *Tue., Dec. 1, 7pm. The North Door, 502 Brushy, 512/485-3002.* www.thenorthdoor.com.





HEY, TURKEYS! Or tofurkeys! Watch out. Thursday's co-min'. Three gay bars – BT II, OCH, Iron Bear – are providing safe haven and free meals to those who might not have a cozy place to go. And even for those who do: What a great time for chosen family. See below, and see News, p.30, and Food, p.51, for more.

BT II THANKSGIVING POTLUCK Have a real family meal! No one is turned away. Born of a crew of big hearts back in the day, Bout Time's Turkey Day is a feast that's been feeding bellies and hearts since the mid-Eighties. Yes, dear, it's turkey, dressin', and alllll the fixin's. All for free. *Thu., Nov. 26, 1pm. Bout Time II, 6607 N. I-35, 512/419-9192. Free. www.fb.com/bt2atx.*

GERALD'S THANKSGIVING BUFFET POTLUCK Play your cards right, and you could make your way around to the other two free Thanksgivings and end up with the cuddly crew at the 'Bear. Side dishes to share are encouraged but not required. Yes, dear, you know the score: turkey, dressin', and all the fixin's. Still free. *Thu., Nov. 26, 5pm. The Iron Bear, 121 W. Eighth, 512/482-8993. Free. www.fb.com/theironbearatx.*

OCH THANKSGIVING Free Thanksgiving with chosen family! No strings, no, really. No one is turned away. Yes, dear, this too is turkey, dressin', and alllll the fixin's. And, did we say, free? *Thu., Nov. 26, 4pm. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 512/320-8823. Free. www.fb.com/oilcanharrys.*

ON OUR GAYDAR

BROKEBACK THURSDAYS They just can't quit you. Stonewall goes country every Thursday. *Thursdays, 10pm-12mid. Stonewall Warehouse, 141 E. Hopkins, San Marcos, 866/620-6667. www.fb.com/stonewallwarehouse.*

PATRICE PIKE Take a hike, and see the Pike. *Thursdays, 8-10pm. Saxon Pub, 1320 S. Lamar. www.fb.com/patricepikeband.*

STRIPPER CIRCUS Go ahead. Step right up, and hum "I'm in Love With a Stripper" all the way home. *Thursdays, 10pm-3am. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth.*

FREE HIV/STD TESTING Know your status. *Tuesdays, 1-4pm & 8-11pm & Fridays, 1-4pm. Midtowne Spa, 5815 Airport, 512/302-9696. www.midtowne.com.*

NAUGHTY BLACK FRIDAY Looking for some squeals with your deals? How about some jerky with your turkey? The Tapelender boys have a special: adult DVD blowout sale ("starting at" \$5). Also, your goose will earn ganders in a nice set of Nasty Pig 3-in-1 suspenders. Oink. *Fri., Nov. 27, 10am. Tapelenders Video, 1114 W. Fifth #201, 512/472-0844. www.tapelenders.com.*

THE RAIN REPORT ON ATX UNCENSORED(ISH) Soldier through the Gaar(ish) humor and watch for the sassy segment starring drag diva Sabel Scities' homo hilarity. *Weeknights, 9:45pm. KXAN the CW Austin, call your provider for channel. www.rainon4th.com, www.thecwaustin.com/category/atx-uncensoredish.*

INDIES FIRST: AUTHOR PARTY What better way to celebrate and honor Small Business Saturday than to holiday-shop at our storied feminist/LGBTQ bookstore? BW is one of the longest-running bizzes in our community. Come say hi to the bookwoman herself, Susan, and a slew of Texas authors, including: Debra Winegarten, Catherine Musemeche, Paige Schilt, Mary Helen Specht, Mary S. Black, Pamela Ferguson, Pam Booten, and so many more. *Sat., Nov. 28, noon-5pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. 105-A, 512/472-2785. www.ebookwoman.com.*

COMING HOME: AUSTIN QUEER YOGA Get centered for the holiday onslaught, turkey. *Sat., Nov. 28, noon-2pm. Yoga Yoga, 2167 W. Anderson, 512/380-9800. www.fb.com/austinquereyogacollective.*

ANOTHER NIGHT, ANOTHER DREAM StoneCold Snugglas take you there via the Nineties way-back machine. Free something or other, and your ass supposedly will ... follow? *Sat., Nov. 28, 10pm. Cheer Up Charlies, 900 Red River. www.fb.com/stonecold.snugglas.*

TOMBOY TUESDAY Girls With Flair want you to strut the swagg of the tomboy flair. Enjoy the debut of new dragingers BOiZ 4 NOW. *Sat., Nov. 28, 10pm. Cheer Up Charlies, 900 Red River. Free. www.fb.com/girlswithflairofficial.*

HIGHLAND SUNDAY FUNDAY It's an afternoon filled with Absolute Brunch and ADA Hold 'Em. *Sundays. Highland Lounge, 404 Colorado. Free. www.highlandlounge.com.*

HOMO ARIGATO! Gayness realness set in the Roman Empire via Derek Jarman & Paul Humfress' Sebastiane on the big screen. *Mon., Nov. 30, 7:15pm. Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 320 E. Sixth. \$10.50. www.drafthouse.com/series/homo-arigato.*

WORLD AIDS DAY SERVICE Reflect, pray, remember, hope ... love. *Tue., Dec. 1, 7pm. Trinity United Methodist Church, 4001 Speedway. Free. www.fb.com/thecarecommunities.*

TUEZGAYZ Dependably fruitastic: Austin's legendary weekly weekday gay night on Red River. *Tuesdays, 9pm. Barbarella, 615 Red River. www.fb.com/barbarella.austin.9.*

THE NOTORIOUS RBG BALL

The Ruth! The Ruth! The Ruth is on FIYAH! Female-fronted ¿Qué Pasa?, KB the Boo Bonic, the Please Please Me, Leslie Sisson & Rozie Castoe from the Moving Panoramas' side project, and Girls' Rock Camp honor Her Honor and help shine the light on Planned Parenthood and the struggle to keep her afloat. *Wed., Dec. 2, 10pm. Spider House Ballroom, 2906 Fruth. \$7.*

HAPPY HOUR W/ MS.

WRIGHT Simply the most diverse and friendly happy hour in Austin: old, young, hip, square, straight, LGBTQ, red-yellow-black-

white-and-brown, and everybody, together in the warm twinkling glow of legendary piano wild woman, Ms. Margaret Wright. *Thursdays & Fridays, 6-8pm. The Skylark Lounge, 2039 Airport. Free. www.fb.com/theskylarklounge.*

HO-RIZON

OUTSIDER 2016 This year's legacy goes to Annie Sprinkle and Beth Stevens. A limited number (100) of fest badges available right now for a low, low price until they sell out. *Wed.-Sun., Feb. 17-21, 2016. Location TBA. \$35. www.outsiderfest.org.*

ACC QUEER WRITING Honors English 1302, Rio Grande campus, M-W, 1:30-2:50pm. Dig deep into your heritage, or learn about a culture kept down for too long, with so much love and art and brilliance to spare ... and share. Prof. Louisa Spaventa guides you through this semester-long queer quest. *Register now! Class will likely fill. Class begins Jan. 19; registration ends Jan. 13. ACC Rio Grande campus, 1212 Rio Grande. ispavent@austincc.edu, www.austincc.edu/honors.*

Send gay bits to gayplace@austinchronicle.com.
See the full array of Gay Place listings at austinchronicle.com/gay.

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HOLIDAY BAZAARS

BLUE GENIE ART BAZAAR Need something Austin-y (art, jewelry, prints, clothing, etc., whatnot, and then some) for a loved one this year? More than 200 artists and artisans will help you with your gifting conundrums. *Every day through Dec. 24, 10am-10pm. The Marchesa Hall & Theatre, 6226 Middle Fiskville, 512/222-7303. Free. www.bluegenieartbazaar.com.*

HORROR FOR THE HOLIDAYS ART & GIFT BAZAAR For the dark soul in your life there will be all manner of horror vendors to get ensure you get them the evil gift they deserve. Bring the whole family for holiday photos with Evil Santa and Krampus. *Sun., Nov. 29, noon-7pm. Spider House Ballroom, 2906 Fruth, 512/480-9562. Free. www.bloodoverthetexas.com.*

VSA TEXAS HOLIDAY ART & GIFT SHOW RECEPTION Start crossing things off your holiday shopping list and support artists with disabilities at the same time with this collection of pop-up art cards, jewelry, prints, ornaments, knitted items, T-shirts, and more. *Mondays-Fridays, Through Dec. 23, 9:30am-5pm (except Thanksgiving and Black Friday). AGE Building, 3710 Cedar, 512/454-9912. www.vsatx.org.*

RENEGADE CRAFT FAIR Too much of a rebel to hit the mall for your holiday shopping? Why don't you try hanging with the big dogs at this market that has unique items that reinforce your iconoclastic lifestyle. *Sat.-Sun., Nov. 28-29, 11am-6pm. Fair Market, 1100 E. Fifth. Free. www.renegadecraft.com.*

BAZAAR BRUNCH Art, jewelry, and more handmade goods will be at your fingertips. *Sun., Nov. 29, 10am-3pm. Bouldin Creek Cafe, 1900 S. First, 512/416-1601. Free. www.facebook.com/eastsidepopup.*

EASTSIDE POP UP/HOLIDAY SHOP HOP Shop the afternoon away with local art, jewelry, and vintage goods. *Sat., Nov. 28, 11am-6pm. Rio Rita, 1308 E. Sixth, 512/524-0384. www.facebook.com/eastsidepopup.*

IBIZ SHOP HOP Scads of local shops will be offering special sales and activities to encourage your Black Friday to continue into Saturday. Participating shopping districts include Guadalupe from 29th to 32nd Street, Burnet from 44th to North Loop, East 11th, East Sixth, North Loop Boulevard, and South First. *Sat., Nov. 28, 11am-6pm. rebekka@ibuyaustin.com.*

HERB SOCIETY HOLIDAY BAZAAR Herb Society members will have lots of herbal products, plants, baked goods, crafts, gardening books, and more to choose from. Please note: Actual herbs, not marijuana. *Tue., Dec. 1, 9:30am-noon. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 512/477-8672. \$2. www.austinherbsociety.org.*



COMMUNITY

SMOOCH A POOCH Make a donation to Luck & Legends Saint Bernard Rescue of Texas and get seven minutes in heaven with a Saint Bernard. *Fri., Nov. 27, 10am-6pm. St. Bernard Sports, 401 W. 3rd St., 512/320-1999.*

EXPLORATION STATION: BLACK FRIDAY The Texas State History Museum invites you to forget the shopping orgy and make some holiday ornaments and souvenirs that have bigger hearts than price tags. *Fri., Nov. 27, 11am-3pm. Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1800 N. Congress, 512/936-8746. Free. www.thestoryoftexas.com.*

LASER TAG BLACK FRIDAY BLACK OPS SPECIAL This isn't your usual indoor laser tag. Take the battle outdoors for some tactical warfare that incorporates a capture-the-flag style game with half-off games all day. *Fri., Nov. 27, 12-5pm. Pinballz Kingdom, 15201 I-35 S., Buda, 512/523-4080. www.pinballzkingdom.com.*

OPTOUTSIDE Walk off those Thanksgiving calories with a 5-mile hike. Giveaways from REI and other vendors sweeten the deal even more. *Fri., Nov. 27, 1-3pm. Violet Crown Trail, Highway 290 & Brodie, 512/789-9670. Free. www.familiesinnature.org.*

LIGHTING OF THE SQUARE It's that time of year: when the turning on of lights becomes an event. There will also be crafts for the kids if they aren't as impressed by the lights. *Fri., Nov. 27, 5-7pm. Williamson Museum, 716 S. Austin Ave., Georgetown, 512/943-1670. Free. www.williamsonmuseum.org.*

THANKSGIVING RECOVERY VOLKS-MARCH Bring the whole family and work off that turkey and potatoes and cranberry sauce and ... well, you know. Choose the 5K or 10K stroll and commune with nature instead of busy shopping malls. *Sat., Nov. 28, 8-11am. Brushy Creek Park, 3300 Brushy Creek Rd., Cedar Park. \$3. www.coloradoriverwalkers.org.*

CHILDREN GIVING TO CHILDREN PARADE Don't get distracted by Santa or his entourage of floats, marching bands, live music, and inflatable and forget to bring a toy to donate to Operation Blue Santa. Get a good spot along the parade route down Congress from 11th to Cesar Chavez. *Sat., Nov. 28, 11am. Free. www.chuysparade.com.*

TECH ORIENTATION Capital IDEA and Austin Community College are offering to provide tuition, books, guidance, and childcare assistance for folks looking to pursue an education and career in tech. One of these introductory meetings is step one in the process. *First Wednesdays of the month, 6:30pm. LifeWorks, 835 Pleasant Valley Rm. B-102, 512/457-8610. Free. www.capitalidea.org.*



MUELLER TOWER LIGHTING The annual lighting of the festive sign atop the old airport control tower rings in the season with family-friendly live music, treats, and activities. Join in a tradition that dates back to the Sixties. *Tue., Dec. 1, 6-8pm. Old Mueller control tower near Berkman and Manor Rd., 512/344-2033. Free.*

THE RED BENCH: REVERENCE Join in a small group conversation about faith. All backgrounds and belief systems are encouraged to attend this respectful and safe event. *Tue., Dec. 1, 6:30pm. Baha'i Faith Center, 2215 E.M. Franklin, 512/386-9145. Free. www.interfaithtexas.org.*

COMPUTER/TECH TRAINING CLASSES Your esteemed public library system offers yet another service to the community: adult computer and tech classes covering everything from the basics to finding a job online to setting up your new gadget. Classes are held in various languages, with some requiring registration beforehand. Call or go online for a complete schedule and additional details. *512/974-7400. Free. library.austintexas.gov.*

HEALTHY HOLIDAYS Austin Travis County Integral Care explores the reasons behind "holiday blues" and what you can do to balance your body and mind during this stressful season. *Wed., Dec. 2, 10:30am. Asian American Resource Center, 8401 Cameron, 512/974-1690. Free. www.austintexas.gov/aarc.*

DAY TRIPS BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

Po Po Restaurant on the edge of **Welfare** near **Boerne** is one of a dying breed of Texas roadhouses. Before traffic moved to the interstate highway, the cafe in the hills was a popular stop on the San Antonio-El Paso road.

Like most highway diners, Po Po was built in stages. It began as Nelson Hall in 1929. Moonshine was sold in the parking lot, and hamburgers at the dance hall cost a nickel.

A succession of owners added to the joint as it evolved from honky-tonk to family restaurant.

Local rancher and owner Ned Houston, supposedly a descendant of Sam Houston, changed the name to Po Po after being awed by a visit to the Mexican volcano **Popocatepetl**. In 1950, Luther and Marie

Burgon took over the cafe under the towering oak. How they found the time to travel is a mystery, but they amassed a sizable collection of commemorative plates. A few souvenir plates soon morphed into china from around the world being donated to the collection. To date, more than 2,500 plates adorn the walls.

The current owner, Sam Bournias, takes pride in offering meals worth making the drive. The portions are big enough to share, but too good to relinquish even one bite. The house specialty is fried chicken, and the steaks are still hefty and cooked to order.

Po Po Restaurant is just north of I-10 on FM 289 at the Welfare exit. Reservations are recommended at 830/537-4194. The menu is posted at www.poporestaurant.com.

1,270th in a series. Collect them all. *Day Trips, Vol. 2, a book of "Day Trips," is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 40312, South Austin, TX 78704.*



GERALD E. MCLEOD

OUT OF TOWN

THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE The Bayou City knows how to put on a parade and the 66th edition of the Turkey Day event is sure to be spectacular. *Thu., Nov. 26, 9am. Houston, 713/635-4000. Free. www.houstontx.gov/thanksgivingparade.*

LIGHTS SPECULAR, HILL COUNTRY STYLE It's a weekend of fun when the Christmas lights and party begin on Friday, with a parade on Saturday all around the Blanco County Courthouse. *Fri., Nov. 27-Fri., Jan. 1. Johnson City, 830/868-7684. Free. www.lbjcountry.com.*

CHRISTMAS AT THE LBJ BOYHOOD HOME Tour the historic Johnson home on Elm Street to see it as it would have looked decorated for Christmas in the Twenties, and then step further back in time and make your way to the 1860s Johnson Settlement. *Sat., Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, and 19, 6-9pm. Johnson City, 830/868-7128. Free. www.nps.gov/lyjo/learn/news/2015_wreathlaying.htm.*

THANKSGIVING DANCE The day begins with a free afternoon show with the Davey Schrank Trio followed by a Roger Creager and Blue Water Band in the historic dance hall. *Sat., Nov. 28, 1-11:45pm. Luckenbach, 830/997-3224. www.luckenbachtexas.com.*

DJ STOUT, VARIATIONS ON A RECTANGLE The award-winning designer and former *Texas Monthly* art director talks about his new book with former *TM* Editor Greg Curtis leading the conversation. *Thu., Dec. 3, 7pm. Alkek Library, Texas State University, San Marcos, 512/245-2313. Free. www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu.*

SPORTS

THE HOME TEAMS

UT WOMEN'S BASKETBALL Vs. Mississippi State. *Wed., Dec. 2, 7pm. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, 512/471-7744. www.texasports.com.*

UT FOOTBALL The Longhorns play their final home game of the season against Texas Tech. *Thu., Nov. 26, 6:30pm. Darrell K. Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium, 2100 San Jacinto, 512/471-3050. \$65-115. www.texasports.com.*

TEXAS STARS Vs. Rockford IceHogs. (What the hell's an icehog?) *Wed., Dec. 2, 7:30pm. Cedar Park Center, 2100 Avenue of the Stars, Cedar Park, 512/600-5000. \$13-75. www.texasstarshockey.com.*

ST. EDWARD'S MEN'S BASKETBALL Vs. St. Xavier: *Fri., Nov. 26, 7pm. Vs. Texas A&M Kingsville: Wed., Dec. 2, 7pm. Recreation and Convocation Center, 3001 S. Congress. \$5. www.athletics.stedwards.edu.*

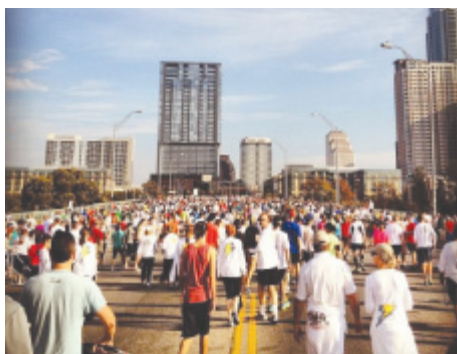
UT MEN'S BASKETBALL Vs. UT Arlington. *Tue., Dec. 1, 7pm. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, 512/471-7744. www.texasports.com.*

SOCCER WATCH BY NICK BARBARO

The local college soccer season ended last Thursday, as the **St. Edward's women** were knocked out of the NCAA Div. II tournament by a 1-0 Sweet 16 loss to **Dallas Baptist** – their fourth loss of the season to their Heartland Conference rivals. The NCAAAs – men and women, across three divisions – continue this weekend and next.

It was first blood to the underdogs in the first leg of the **Major League Soccer** Conference finals on Sunday. The **Columbus Crew** got a goal just 10 seconds in, and went on to beat regular season champion **New York Red Bulls**, 2-0, while the **Portland Timbers** beat Western top seed **FC Dallas**, 3-1. Return legs are this Sunday, Nov. 29 – in Dallas at 4pm on ESPN, New York at 6:30pm on FS1.

As we go to press a day early for Thanksgiving, only half of this week's **European Champions League** games have been played. Little was decided on Tuesday, but it was a good day for Londoners, as **Arsenal** kept alive their hopes of surviving the group stage, and **Chelsea** improved theirs with a win in Tel Aviv. The group stage will conclude Dec. 8-9, with the distinct possibility that teams from **England** and **Spain** will make up eight of the final 16.



THUNDERCLOUD SUBS TURKEY TROT

This Turkey Day tradition offers participants the option of a timed or untimed 5-mile run, 1-mile walk and a kids' K. If the running doesn't tire out the kiddos, there will be activities and games. Proceeds will benefit Caritas of Austin. *Thu., Nov. 26, 8am. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 512/479-8805. \$18-35. www.thundercloud.com/turkey-trot.*

KIDS

WINNIE THE POOH Kids ages 3 and up are invited to see everyone's favorite rotund bear and his friends Eeyore, Piglet, Rabbit, and others as they embark on an adventure in this musical adaptation. *Through Dec. 12. Zach Theatre's Kleberg Stage, 1421 W. Riverside, 512/476-0594. \$20 (\$15, kids). www.zachtheatre.org.*

KIDS CLUB MUSIC HOUR Get the kids dancing, singing, and shouting with this live music showcase "come to life." Games and snacks beforehand make sure the parents are caffeinated and the kids are primed. *Sundays through Nov. 29, 10am. Scottish Rite Theater, 207 W. 18th, 512/494-1411. \$1. www.mrjohnny.com.*

FLYING THEATER MACHINE: WONDERLAND The kids can get in on the improv action at this show filled with strange and silly characters. *Sundays through Dec. 20, 2pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 512/443-3688. \$5. www.hideouttheatre.com.*

Holiday Family Fun

PRAIRIE CHRISTMAS: DEC. 5-6 & 12-13
Daytime shows on two weekends: Santa, hayrides, Hill Country Players, Clickety Cloggers, Cedar Park Tuba-Euphonium Quartet.

BAH HUMBUG: SUNDAY, DEC. 6 Holiday stage play

EBENEZER'S JOURNEY: DEC. 4-5 & 12-13
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FOOD

THE TAKE-OUT
BY
BRANDON WATSON



THE SWEET 16 (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

- 1) El Tacorrido
- 2) Fresa's Chicken al Carbon
- 3) Joe's Bakery
- 4) Juan in a Million
- 5) Marcelino Pan y Vino
- 6) Maria's Taco Xpress
- 7) Mi Madre's
- 8) Paco's Tacos
- 9) Papalote Taco House
- 10) Tacodeli
- 11) Taco-Mex
- 12) Taco More
- 13) Tyson's Tacos
- 14) Valentina's Tex Mex BBQ
- 15) Veracruz All Natural
- 16) ???

YOU pick the WILD CARD!

Who did we leave off the list?
Tell us on Facebook, Instagram,
or Twitter using hashtag

#TacoThrilla

Let's Get Ready to Scramble

It's hard to believe now, but there was a time when breakfast tacos were a novelty. Tacos were baked in crispy commercial shells, stuffed with ground beef seasoned with a packet of Lawry's, topped with shredded cheddar and lettuce, and hosed down with a vinegary sauce. At least in the Texas Panhandle, the idea of wrapping bacon, scrambled eggs, and cheese in a tortilla seemed as newfangled as Amy Grant's secular music career.

By the time my folks moved to Robinson, the hard lines of taco-dom were tempered. Now that we lived near the "big" city of Waco with its drive-throughs and mall food courts, my culinary vocabulary had greatly expanded. I discovered that a taco could be "soft," a revelation. Robinson was my taco Galapagos.

If I had a breakfast taco before then, I don't remember. But I can still taste the tacos my dad would pick up before school. They weren't terribly good in retrospect: The eggs were runny and the meat was prepackaged sandwich ham, but I was hooked. The little blue deli next to the hardware store was simply serving the most amazing food I had ever had in my life.

Since then, the breakfast taco was there no matter what I went through in life. The first time I cooked as an adult, I scrambled up some (probably too runny) eggs. Tacos were the first thing I made when I learned that a couple of bottles of André made brunch. When I just moved to Austin and could barely afford rent, I would still gather up loose change and go to Tamale House.

All that is to say that breakfast tacos have been lifelong friends – always ready with the perfect combination of comfort and carbs. We here at the *Chronicle* want to celebrate that friendship in the only way we know how, putting 16 restaurants up against one another in grueling combat. Introducing the Thrilla in the Tortilla, our egg-breaking, chorizo-sliding, masa-flinging tournament to find the best damn taco in Austin. Over the next two weeks, we will ask our readers to knock out contenders until we can name the greatest.

To help draft Austin's best taco purveyors for battle, I relied on an expert taco squad. Mando Rayo and Jarod Neece of Taco Journalism literally wrote the book on breakfast tacos: *Austin Breakfast Tacos: The Story of the Most Important Taco of the Day*. Westen

Borghesi of White Ghost Shivers and Nakia, the person who should have won the first season of *The Voice*, both know that breakfast tacos make beautiful music. Mariam Parker, executive director of the Austin Food & Wine Alliance, lent her knowledge of Austin's diverse food scene. And Mayor Steve Adler, risking controversy early in his first term, gamely weighed in with his favorites.

Of course, I also enlisted some of my favorite chefs, whose refined palates continue to inform my own – Roaring Fork chef Adrian Giovanelli, Jack Allen's Kitchen chef/owner Jack Gilmore, Launderette executive chef Rene Ortiz, Hopdoddy Burger Bar chef/co-founder Larry Perdido, and Odd Duck pastry chef Susana Querejazu. And because breakfast tacos are perhaps the best hang-over cure ever devised, I thought Hops & Grain Brewery founder Josh Hare and Jack Allen's Kitchen beverage manager David Tobey would have an informed opinion. My gratitude goes out to them all.

But they will not decide who ultimately goes home with the championship. That task will be left up to you. Our taco crew only decided 15 of the slots, so we need one more contender. Check out our list above to find out who is already in the race. Did we egregiously leave someone off the list? Vote until noon, Dec. 1, on social media using the hashtag #TacoThrilla. The winner of the vote will be lucky No. 16 on our list. Then the real battle begins. You, dear reader, will have a ringside seat.

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Fairground Attraction

In Austin, carnival food has no season

BY AMIRA JENSEN

State fairs started as a way to promote agriculture through livestock shows and competitive exhibitions. There's still plenty of that fanfare today, but ask anybody about their memories of the fair and the only chicken they are likely to remember was deep-fried and served with a choice of dipping sauces. Every year, Americans lick their lips in anticipation of the culinary attractions, where the most outlandish recipes are lauded. But in Austin, there's no need to mourn the season's end. These comfort-food-slinging businesses deserve a blue ribbon year-round.

LITTLE LUCY'S

74 Rainey, www.littlelucys.com

Little Lucy's started as a dream to replicate owner Adam Morgan's memories of family vacations to San Francisco, where he regularly made a pilgrimage to Pier 39 for a taste of mini-doughnuts. Now any Rainey Street-goer can feel that satisfaction of popping a whole fried delicacy into your mouth, of cinnamon sugar sticking to your lips like the sweetest kiss. And while food stands at the fair must sing their swan song before winter hits, business picks up for Little Lucy's when the temperature drops. "Baked goods are synonymous with cold [weather] comfort food," said general manager Anton Montoya.

The mini-doughnut shop started a little over three years ago in a '72 vintage postal truck, which is still used for catering events. A trailer stays put in South Austin with Montoya at the helm, serving the bar scene with a simple but delectable, made-to-order menu. The "Donut Robot" fryer gets to work dropping rings of dough into a vat of oil, which are then flipped, fried golden, and taken down a conveyor belt until they're ready to be dusted with a flavor of choice, such as the seasonal pumpkin spice or the traditional cinnamon and sugar. Your mini-doughnut



indulgence can come in two sizes of bright pink bags – small, or large for a dollar more. You can also get Ghirardelli dipping sauces for the full West Coast effect.

LARD HAVE MERCY

www.lardhavemercy.net

Lard Have Mercy doesn't shy away from the truth: Their menu is mouthwatering and full of sin ... no, wait ... scintillating dishes. The running theme is bacon, from the Pig Sty (a hot dog wrapped in bacon and topped with grilled onions and spicy mustard) to the Juicy Lucy (cheese-stuffed beef patty, hickory-smoked bacon, and the fixings) to a side that goes with everything: bacon-flavored french fries.

Owner Chris Cooper hails from the DFW area and remembers going to the State Fair of Texas every year with his family. With Lard Have Mercy, he's able to answer people's prayers for inventive deep-fried food without having to wait for the annual event to come around. "Not all the time can you make it to the state fair as an adult," Cooper said. "So why not try it at home?"

The secret to Cooper's cooking is his double battering, a method he learned from the woman who taught him everything – his mom. The Lard Have Mercy trailer has been dedicated to catering events for the past few months, but Cooper says it will return once again to the South First Food Court in early 2016.

MAC DADDY'S

2512 Rio Grande St.,
www.fb.com/macdaddysaustin

Food trucks dedicated to the art of mac & cheese have come and gone, but Mac Daddy's has proven to build a fan base over the seasons. Recently celebrating its first anniversary, owner and operator Christoph Terrell celebrated the West Campus food

LOVE BALLS 2908 Fruth, www.loveballsbus.com

Takoyaki is not your usual state fair food, but these pan-fried pancake balls are a mainstay at any festival or outdoor event in Japan. And according to Love Balls owner Gabe Rothschild, Japan knows how to do festivals right. "The fireworks are the best I've ever seen," Rothschild said. "And you eat takoyaki. Or if you go out for hanami – a flower viewing for when the cherry blossoms come out – on the outskirts of the park there will always be a takoyaki stand."

Rothschild received his first takoyaki grill as a Valentine's present from his then-girlfriend in 2009. Together they learned how to make



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

Fried and True
owner Arielle
Henson

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1104 E. Sixth, www.friedandtrue.com

Perhaps the most dedicated purveyor of quintessential fair food, Fried and True serves it up five days a week with a Fifties flair. Look no further for the gamut of deep-fried foods: grilled cheese, funnel cake, Oreos, pickles, and more.

Owner Arielle Henson started the venture hoping that working for herself would be a fulfilling career move. Three years later, Henson's filled the bellies of thousands and is still having fun. "I wanted to do what I thought would make me happy, and something that I thought would make my husband happy, and my family proud," Henson said.

With a bachelor's degree in theatre, Henson pulls up the curtain to her food trailer every evening and starts the show. Her cat-eyed glasses and pinned-up hair might be the first thing you notice when you walk up to the trailer, but everything gets blurry once you bite into the likes of her deep-fried brownie bites. That molten chocolate center will have your eyes rolling inside your head every time.

Henson grew up in a "quinoa and carob sort of way," making her family's yearly trips to the town fair in Massachusetts a magical time that allowed the rare opportunity to eat fried dough. Today, she serves nostalgia late into the night. She makes her batter from scratch and coats her corn dogs the old-fashioned way – by putting the batter in a glass milk jug and hand-dunking each hot dog to get a perfect cylinder. While deep-frying may not be held in as high esteem as baking, Henson said it's a tricky process that she's dedicated herself to doing "really, really well."



trailer's milestone by taking photos of his regulars and posting them to its Facebook page. Business is on the upswing, he said.

Using rotini and cheese as the foundation of his menu, Terrell uses his creative license to create one-of-a-kind variations of an American staple. The sauce is a mix of four cheeses and a garlic béchamel, and the toppings can vary from current special Hatch green chile and chorizo to the crowd-pleasing

Spicy Pig, which features maple bacon and sautéed jalapeños. Customers can also take their pick of ingredients to create their own flavor profile. Each dish is then topped with panko crumbs and baked to order.

"I don't like making food that you can get anywhere else," Terrell said. "If you're going to be inspired by the art of cooking, you need your own ideas. Mac & cheese, sure, it's out there. But I've never seen it done like this."

the snack, which involves pouring a pancake-like batter onto the mold- ed griddle, adding octopus, pickled ginger and scallions, then using skewers to rotate the mixture and create balls.

When they moved to Austin in 2011, they noticed the restaurant scene was lacking in Japanese comfort food and opened Love Balls to fill the gap. Other dishes they serve include buta kimchi (stir-fried pork belly and kimchi), garlic yaki-onigiri (grilled rice ball with garlic soy sauce and served with a seaweed wrap) and tako kara-age (deep-fried octopus served with a spicy mayo dip). Rothschild's goal with Love Balls is to serve Japanese food that's affordable and accessible.

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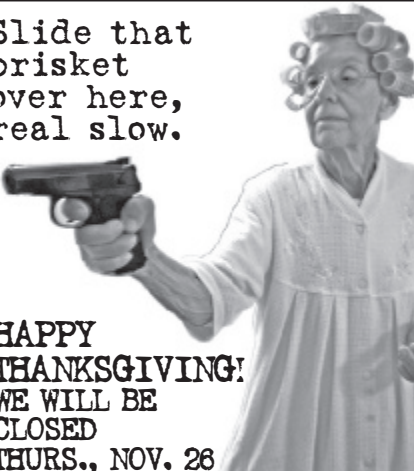
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PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

The Once and Future King

SHAWN CIRKIEL COMES BACK SWINGING WITH BULLFIGHT

For restaurateurs, longevity can sometimes be more of a curse than a blessing. The urge to innovate often erodes after years of juggling grueling schedules, handling customer whims, and making micro-decisions that have very little to do with hospitality. When Chavez opened, I was worried that Shawn Cirkiel was phoning it in. I didn't exactly blame him; there are few Austin chefs who have been around longer. He was the second owner of Jean-Luc's Bistro in the early Aughts, then spent some time at Uchi, before redefining local late-night dining with parkside. Along the way, he upped the pizza game with backspace and opened a neighborhood trattoria with Olive & June before briefly dipping his toes into

hotel dining. The Southwestern revival fare at Chavez seemed lackluster, but his laurels deserved some resting.

I will never again doubt the restorative power of a nap. Bullfight proves that there is still fire left in Cirkiel's Parkside Projects. The contrast between the two restaurants couldn't be more stark. If Chavez's fortress of solitude seemed sterile, Bullfight is more of a bat cave — anchored by heavy rafters and a massive iron chandelier. If Chavez's Southwestern redux wasn't ready for an Austin moment, New-Americanized Spanish fits the local id. If the service at Chavez was lackluster, then ... well, not all things can change.

It's not that the servers are careless or otherwise disengaged. Professional, gracious, attentive. Throw any plaudit their way and it will probably apply. But servers are not service, and no amount of courtesy makes the headlong sprint of the kitchen any less noticeable. There is barely any time to savor one of executive chef Ryan Shields' offerings before another takes its place. That's too bad, because it causes the tastes to run together. And with so many preparations relying on the grill or the fryer, pacing is everything.

That wasn't much of a problem in the "snacks" column. The presentation is a bit gimmicky — mini Parsons tables intersected with paper cones — but each morsel delivers concentrated flavors that stand up to the punchy cocktail menu. Like a lot of bar

menus, the story here is mostly about salt. Battered squid with aioli (\$5 at full price) and ras el hanout-seasoned fried eggplant (\$4) had a touch of the stuff; bacalao fritters (\$5), sweetish torreznos (\$5), bacon-wrapped dates (\$6), and especially the jamón croquettes (\$6) take the entire lick. All that is welcome next to Nathan Hines' cocktails like the El Torero (rye, apple liqueur, vino rojo, lemon — \$10) and the Ahumado (moonshine, mezcal, fig syrup, and citrus — \$11) or advanced sommelier Paul Ozbirn's daring wine list — both of which dare to just skirt treacle in search of balanced pairings.

But later in the meal, the balance was off. And a few of the dishes suffered from being delivered so closely together. The pan-fried veal sweetbreads (\$8) were a standout from the first visit, but seemed overly sweet when eaten with the orange in duck meatballs (\$12) and the glaze in pork ribs (\$14). None of these dishes faltered on their own, but they could have benefited from being coursed out with the woodsy escalivada spiked with the vinegar of boquerones (\$10) or maybe the smoke of marinated octopus with potatoes (\$12).

And there is plenty diversity to be had, particularly with the vegetable dishes. Of the gazpachos, the tomato (\$8) hedged closer to tradition, but the creamy cauliflower (\$6) with an early fall sprinkle of walnut edged it out. Parsnips (\$9) were of the season too, honeyed by blood orange and saffron. The patatas bravas (\$5) were a little undercooked and the sauce a little too on the nose, but the roasted mushrooms (\$9), already impossibly buttery, wallowed in cured egg. The two tortillas impressed too — the classic one-two of caramelized onion and potato (\$5) is a heartier counterpoint to the more ephemeral kale and butternut version (\$6).

The kitchen is also especially adept with seafood. Branzino crudo (\$12) is enlivened by a classic pipérade and green olive. Serrano ham lent some assertiveness to usually mild hake (\$22). The richness of urchin roe (\$9) was compounded with butter and the char of grilled bread. Instead of playing up the caramelized sear of diver scallops (\$16) with something expected like corn, Bullfight uses hazelnuts in a romesco, then forgets propriety entirely by adding the bite of green onion. The paella isn't purely seafood (\$29) of course, but the shellfish stood out even when mixed with a fairly stout chorizo. Like others, I found the socarrat a bit wanting, but I expect that will come with practice.

And I expect they will get plenty of that, especially at the generous happy hour. Sure, there are some wrinkles to iron. The menu could use a few more reprieves from all the smoke and salt, and pastry chef Erica Waksmunski is being criminally underutilized with a scant three desserts. But still it's nice to see Cirkiel in top form. It turns out you can go home again.

— Brandon Watson



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MEAL TIMES

Thanksgiving Dining

We're sure your dad makes one hell of a green bean casserole, but just in case Thanksgiving dinner goes awry, plenty of places in town are offering meals that you won't have to sneakily spit in your napkin. From inventive takes on the classics to prime rib feasts, we have your Turkey Day covered. austinchronicle.com/thanksgiving.



THINKSTOCK

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AN EVENING WITH THE FABULOUS BEEKMAN BOYS

Hit reality show will host a special presentation, followed by a "pop-up farmers' market" in the theatre lobby featuring local food and gift vendors. Sun., Nov. 29, 7:15pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 512/472-5470. \$30-100.

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

"Wild, Wild West" themed gingerbread village. Mondays & Tuesdays. Four Seasons Hotel, 98 San Jacinto, 512/478-4500.

HOPS & GRAIN BEER DINNER

Five courses paired with limited-edition beers. Mon., Nov. 30, 6-8pm. Odd Duck, 1201 S. Lamar, 512/433-6521. \$70.

ALL NIGHT HAPPY HOUR

Tipsy Tuesday until 2am. Tuesdays. Roosevelt Room, 307 W. Fifth, 512/494-4094.

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Tue., Dec. 1, 5pm-12mid. Arro, 601 W. Sixth, 512/992-2776. \$60; \$100 with pairings.

BEGINNING KNIFE SKILLS

With chef Kelly Ritter. Tue., Dec. 1, 6:30-9pm. The Natural Epicurean Academy of Culinary Arts, 1700 S. Lamar, 512/476-2276. \$69.

WHISKEY

WEDNESDAYS Half-priced pours on select bottles of whiskey. Wednesdays. Roosevelt Room, 307 W. Fifth, 512/494-4094.

WHISKEY WEDNESDAY

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RUSSIAN TEA DRINKING

Wed., Dec. 2, 6-9pm. Russian House, 307 E. Fifth, 512/428-5442. \$12.

FOOD+CITY BROWN BAG LUNCH

Lunch and learn. Thu., Dec. 3, noon-1pm. 200 W. 24th St., Mary E. Gearing Hall, Rm. 125, UT campus. Free. beth@foodandcity.org.

EAT DRINK LOCAL WEEK

HARVEST DINNER Annual partnership with Bread & Circus Supper Club celebrates sustainable local food systems. Thu., Dec. 3, 6:30-9:30pm. Palm Door, 401 Sabine. \$55.

WHISKY FESTIVAL

More than 80 of the finest whiskies of Scotland and the British Isles will be available to try, and a portion of the proceeds goes to Meals on Wheels & More. Thu., Dec. 3, 7pm. Opal Divine's Penn Field, 3601-K S. Congress, 512/707-0237. \$45 advance, or \$50 the day of.

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SCREENS



Found Footage 3D

COURTESY OF STEVEN DEGENNARO

Putting Your Money Where Your Mouse Is

AUSTIN FILMMAKERS ON THE PROMISES AND PERILS OF CROWDFUNDING **by Richard Whittaker**

Thanksgiving is a time for contemplating our benefactors: friends, families, mentors. For independent filmmakers, that list expands as an increasing number turn to crowdfunding to raise all or part of their budget. That's as true for Austin, and its ever-growing crowd of inventive and cash-strapped directors, as it is for any other film scene.

Crowdfunding is simple: A creator uses an online platform to ask people to back their next project. The sums can range from a single buck to a down payment on a house, and the perks and rewards are similarly tiered. Yet its early years were rocky. Initially, nobody trusted the idea of throwing money at some random strangers' production. Then it became something seemingly reserved for small, independent creatives, with vitriolic backlash against celebrities like Zach Braff, who raised \$3.1 million for his second feature, *Wish I Was Here*. Now it seems completely natural for a filmmaker to fall back on the kindness of strangers and fans. Moreover, studios are taking crowd-funded films seriously: Sony Pictures Classic acquired Don Cheadle's Miles Davis biopic, *Miles Ahead*, and Fox Searchlight will distribute *Super Troopers II*, while *Dear White People* was a huge success for Lions Gate.

Marc Hofstatter, head of film for fundraising platform Indiegogo, sees that development as the standard growing pains of any disruptive technology. He said, "What was

HBO in the beginning? What was AMC in the beginning? It just takes time and a few strong case studies for someone to say, 'OK, this is legit, this makes sense.'"

While Kickstarter may be a bigger name in crowdfunding, Indiegogo was there first. Founded in 2008, its original focus was film production. When Hofstatter joined in 2013, he found it a welcome change from the decade he had spent in what he called "traditional film," where projects dawdle and die. His office doesn't just sit passively while the ambitious and the hopeful shake the digital collection tray, but serves as a resource to make sure they hit their target, and start shooting. He said, "This is the way I wanted to work with filmmakers at the beginning of my career, but I never really had the opportunity to do so."

For *Meet Me There* director Lex Lybrand, after three films and three Indiegogo campaigns, crowdfunding is key to his finances. Calling himself "essentially a glorified hobby filmmaker," he said, "I moved to Austin to make movies because I knew I could make

them for as little money or as much money as I could raise." That's a practical attitude, because none of his campaigns have gotten much more than halfway to their targets. Yet the campaign total doesn't tell the whole story. His latest project – tech satire *Trolls* – raised \$4,311 of its \$20,000 goal. However, 12 hours after the campaign ended, local intellectual property specialist law practice Cesari & Reed, LLP contacted him: The partners had heard about the campaign, were interested in the script's story of patent thieves, and invested \$20,000.

While critically acclaimed productions like *Hellion* have raised Kat Candler's profile, she still knows about hand-to-mouth filmmaking. When she started, she said, "We were having garage sales, putting together concert benefits, anything to cobble together our little productions." In 2011, she experimented with an Indiegogo campaign for the original short of "Hellion." She asked for \$3,500, and ended up getting nearly \$1,000 over that amount. The following year, for the more ambitious "Black Metal," she asked for \$6,000, and beat that number by over \$1,100. While the cash was important, equally important was the community that sprung up around her films before a frame was ever shot. Old friends came out of the woodwork to back her vision, and "Black Metal" gave her exposure to an audience that had never even heard of her film *Jumping off Bridges*. She said, "They were fans of metal, rather than me or what I've done."

When it comes to crowdfunding, community is everything. It's how Austin-based Rooster Teeth raised nearly \$2.5 million for the upcoming *Lazer Team* from fans already loyal to their brand. Editor-turned-director

pulled in \$55,715, but that was just one of the campaign's benefits. She said, "Within the local film community, everybody knew about it and was asking about it. When it came time to crew up, there were a lot of people ready to sign up."

Candler, Lybrand, and Skloss all started their campaigns before shooting began. When Steven DeGennaro and his producers sought help for the upcoming *Found Footage 3D*, the feature was almost finished, but there was a problem: The special effects budget had tripled, and they didn't have the cash to cover the gap. So rather than just ask for abstract completion funds, DeGennaro highlighted one incomplete shot. He said, "We decided that the more specific the goal for our campaign was, the more it would resonate." Again, he felt this would build community, and a sense of ownership among the backers. He said, "When you watch the finished film, you'll be able to look at that scene and say, 'I paid for that.'"

However, that's not all they're paying for. Out of the \$35,172 raised for *Found Footage 3D*, the production only kept around 71%, with the rest split between fulfilling the incentives and perks, and the 9% crowdfunding fee. Then there's the big difference between the leading platforms: Indiegogo lets you keep everything you raise, whereas Kickstarter requires that you hit your target, otherwise you don't get anything. Lybrand went with Indiegogo in part because he needed to retool his script to fit his eventual budget, but Skloss saw Kickstarter's all-or-nothing approach as adding a certain urgency. She said, "I definitely saw a scramble at the end from people who knew about me and cared about me."

DeGennaro saw the choice of platform as less of an issue. He said, "We wouldn't have launched the campaign if we didn't think we could make it." Conversely, if the production missed the target, then he would have "a much bigger issue than the money. We would have overestimated the demand for the movie."

That's a rough lesson to learn. Indiegogo's Hofstatter said, "You're putting your heart and your work for people to either accept or reject, and if they do reject it, there's perhaps a good reason why." However, it's important not to confuse a bad project with a bad campaign, and there's a lot more to hitting a target than just setting realistic goals and having cool perks. DeGennaro hired a PR firm to email potential backers with a countdown clock before the launch, while Skloss bought ads on movie websites. All of this takes planning. Hofstatter said, "I always make the analogy that you can't make a sandwich and eat it at the same time." Instead, he compared running a campaign to shooting a movie. He said, "You don't just say, 'Let's shoot this today.' No, you need to know what you're shooting that day. It's the same way with an Indiegogo campaign. You need to know what you're doing that day."



The Honor Farm

COURTESY OF KAREN SKLOSS/RUSK PHOTOGRAPHY

Karen Skloss didn't expect to crowdfund the whole \$300,000 for her debut narrative feature, *The Honor Farm*, so her \$50,000 Kickstarter target "was a way to show our investors that there was an audience for the movie." Fortunately for her, the campaign

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Rocky's Road

Rocky reboot is a contender

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

The underdog winner Rocky Balboa, a character who's become part of the American mythos ever since *Rocky* debuted in 1976, has managed a difficult movie task in *Creed*: He ages gracefully and passes the torch to a new generation. Sylvester Stallone's creation has boxed on through five more iterations of the *Rocky* saga as the heavyweight champ fought for glory, revenge, America, or whatever motivation was handy. Yet none of the subsequent chapters carried the same emotional satisfaction as the original *Rocky* – until now, with *Creed*, whose very title signals a new start and unwillingness to settle for being simply *Rocky VII*.



CREED

D: Ryan Coogler; with Michael B. Jordan, Sylvester Stallone, Tessa Thompson, Phylicia Rashad, Andre Ward, Anthony Bellew, Ritchie Coster, Graham McTavish, Alex Henderson. (PG-13, 132 min.)

★★★★

which, sadly, is a rare thing among American actors, yet he still manages to imbue the character with full heart and salt-of-the-earth demeanor and speech that endeared him to us in the first place. Yo!

However, the infusion of new energy and points of departure is due to the efforts of Ryan Coogler, the director and co-screenwriter (with Aaron Covington), and star Michael B. Jordan, who reunited for this picture following their attention-grabbing breakthrough film *Fruitvale Station* in 2013. Jordan plays the illegitimate son of Apollo Creed (Carl Weathers) who died in the ring in *Rocky IV* before Adonis was born. That was in 1985, and though *Creed* fudges a bit with Adonis' age (30 seems a bit old to begin a boxing career), the natural aptitude that is his birthright more than sells the concept. Eager, determined, and fully belonging to a new era, Adonis (aka Donny) wants to succeed on his own merits, rather than as the son of a legend. He begins fighting under his adopted mother's surname, and quits his white-collar job as the movie begins to move to Philadelphia, where he plans to convince Rocky Balboa to be his trainer. This takes more than a little badgering, which gives Adonis time to start up a romance with singer Bianca (Thompson, from *Dear White People*).

For all its freshness, however, *Creed* still conforms to the familiar formula of a boxer's rise, beginnings of self-doubt, recovery of self-conviction, and ultimate triumph. But the performances are lovely, and Maryse Alberti's cinematography, especially in the fight sequences, is deft and dynamic. Little touches add to the film's authenticity: Adonis braiding Bianca's hair while they hang out talking in bed; Bianca's hearing aids, which resist becoming a plot point (although the character could have sustained a little more depth); Adonis' all-too-human pre-fight jitters; and Rocky's trips to the cemetery to read the newspaper in the company of Adrian and Paulie's headstones. *Creed* isn't a complete TKO, but it goes all 12 rounds with vitality and flourish.

ALAMO RITZ, ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, ALAMO VILLAGE, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, CM SOUTHPARK MEADOWS, FLIX BREWHOUSE, HIGHLAND, GATEWAY, IPIC, LAKELINE, MOVIEHOUSE, TINSELTOWN NORTH

FILM LISTINGS

NEW REVIEWS

THE GOOD DINOSAUR

D: Peter Sohn; with the voices of Jeffrey Wright, Frances McDormand, Raymond Ochoa, Jack Bright, Steve Zahn, Anna Paquin, Sam Elliott, A.J. Buckley, Maleah Nipay-Padilla, Ryan Teeple, Jack McGraw, Marcus Scribner. (PG, 92 min.)

With its latest film, Pixar Animation continues to reign supreme in the realm of family-focused animated features. *The Good Dinosaur* is sweet and charming, packed with danger, deaths, and emotional tugs. It may not be Pixar's most original film or most heartwarming, but it gets the job done in fine fashion. And the studio only has itself to blame for deflating expectations by making *The Good Dinosaur* follow on the heels of their only other 2015 release: the brilliant, groundbreaking *Inside Out*. Almost anything will pale by comparison.

The movie's conceit is that dinosaurs were not obliterated 65 million years ago by a pre-

sumed asteroid. That space boulder missed Earth entirely (making for an amusing opening fake-out), and the creatures go on to build lives and societies, much along the lines that humans eventually did. Our hero Arlo (voiced by Ochoa, and McGraw as an infant) is an Apatosaurus, who was the runt of his parents' litter. He's frail and timid, although Poppa (Wright) tries to teach his son to work through his fears. (Think *The Lion King*.) One day, Arlo gets lost in a storm and then must spend the rest of the movie finding his way home to his family's farm. Lessons will be learned, courage will be found, and wisdom gained. As I said before, original this is not. Yet what is distinctive about *The Good Dinosaur* is the way in which it unfolds. The dangers Arlo faces seem very real: He's knocked unconscious at least a couple of

CONTINUED ON P.55

OPENINGS

Creed (PG-13)
The Good Dinosaur (PG)
Inji Iduppazhagi (NR)
Legend (R)
Size Zero (NR)
Tamasha (NR)
Victor Frankenstein (PG-13)

RATINGS

★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be
 ★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless
 ★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points
 ★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots
 ★ Poor, without any saving graces
 ☹ La bomba
 AB ★ Recommended

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 Sun. 10:00 1:00 4:15 7:10 10:15
 Mon. - Thu. 1:00 4:15 7:10 10:15
The Good Dinosaur 3D (PG) Fri. & Sat. 10:00 12:15 2:20 4:30 6:55 9:20 11:30
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 Mon. - Thu. 12:15 2:20 4:30 6:55 9:20
The Night Before (R) Fri. - Sun. 11:20 2:05 4:45 7:20 9:50
 Mon. - Thu. 2:05 4:45 7:20 9:50
Victor Frankenstein (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 11:20 1:55 4:35 7:05 9:30 11:59
 Sun. 11:20 1:55 4:35 7:05 9:30
 Mon. - Thu. 1:55 4:35 7:05 9:30
The Good Dinosaur (PG) Fri. - Sun. 10:20 12:30 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:40
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The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 2 (PG-13) Fri. & Sun. 11:45 3:15 6:45 9:45
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 Wed. 12:00 1:30 3:15 3:30 4:30 6:45 7:00 7:30 9:45 10:00
Spectre (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 12:00 3:30 6:40 9:55 11:30
 Sun. - Thu. 12:00 3:30 6:40 9:55
The Peanuts Movie (G) Fri. - Sun. 10:10 12:15 2:20 4:30 6:50 9:25
 Mon. - Thu. 12:15 2:20 4:30 6:50 9:25
The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 2 (PG-13) Fri. 10:15 11:45 12:00 1:30 3:15
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 Tue. & Thu. 12:00 1:30 3:15 3:30 4:30 6:45 7:00 7:30 9:45 10:00
 Wed. 3:15 6:45 9:45

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Robert Reyes woke up hung over. The 37-year-old knew well the feeling, and soon a couple of breakfast tacos were swiftly administered. Late on a sunny afternoon in April, as he was home checking his email before his manager shift at the Alamo Drafthouse Ritz, he started feeling an odd sensation in his head. “There was this weird pain in my brain that I had never felt before,” recalled Robert. “I took a shower to try and get rid of it, and as I was getting out of the shower, I clipped my foot on the edge of the bathtub and almost fell down. That had never happened to me in my life. That was the moment I knew there might be something serious going on.” As the whole left side of his body became numb and he started vomiting up his lunch, Robert made two phone calls: one to his brother Ric and one to 911. Instead of spending the night overseeing two sold-out Master Pancake shows, Robert spent the night – and the next 35 nights – inside a hospital room, coming to terms with his new reality.

Back in 2001, Robert was a waiter at Matt’s El Rancho when he went to the old Colorado Street Alamo Drafthouse for the first time. “I went to see a *Spike & Mike* show there, and my server was pretty cute, and I thought, ‘This would be a cool place to work.’” This was the early years of the Drafthouse, when founders Tim and Karrie League oversaw the whole operation. “We were very much a family unit back then with only 30 employees and one location. The line between employee and employer was often pretty blurry,” said Tim League via email. Robert added, “At the time, we had no idea that this little theatre was going to turn into the national empire it is now. We were just a bunch of twentysomethings having fun and showing odd movies for the cool kids.”

When I moved to town in 2003 and got a job there, Robert was one of the first friends I made. We bonded over a love of comic books, Eighties action movies, and sci-fi. As the Drafthouse flourished, Robert became not just beloved by his co-workers, but by the patrons as well. “It was a tight-knit community. All the regulars were really nice and sweet. We all grew up together; it was a great time,” Robert said.

Austin was growing, too, with a seemingly endless influx of new residents in the creative class and service industry. Every night there were parties, concerts, bike rides, and of course, vices. “Austin gives you every opportunity to never grow up. In this city, there’s so many options to do so many things, and I had opted to do *all* of them. It’s a lot to put a body through, and I had been doing it for 15 years,” he said. Staying up till 5am most nights started to take its toll. “Over the last year, I started feeling run-down, I’d get nosebleeds and piercing headaches, but I just thought it was due to being hung over.” Robert knew his family had a history of high blood pressure – he was diagnosed with it in 2011 – but like many people, he ignored it, thinking that riding his bike all over town with his friends would be

enough to balance his reckless lifestyle. “I’d made the decision to change my life around and get healthier, but it was too little too late. I wasn’t able to correct course in time, and my body decided to just shut down.”

Robert had suffered a hemorrhagic stroke: An aneurysm had ruptured in his brain. “The doctors showed me a CAT scan and where the aneurysm was,” recalled his

After a weekend of relentless monitoring (Robert remembers a doctor with a defibrillator at one point), the aneurysm stayed in place. Less than a week after his admission, the latest *Stars Wars: The Force Awakens* trailer was released. He and Ric huddled over a laptop watching it on repeat, Robert in tears.

After three weeks in the ICU, Robert was transferred to St. David’s Rehabilitation

A New Hope

Stroke survivor Robert Reyes gets another lease on life

BY JOSH KUPECKI



DEKAI KNOWLES

brother Ric. “It was really close to his brain stem, and it was big.” The doctors told Ric that the next 48 hours were going to be crucial to Robert’s survival. “They said the aneurysm could move to the brain stem and cause him to become brain-dead. That was their best-case scenario at the time. It solidified that this whole situation was out of my hands. There was nothing I could do for him, except be there for Robert and my family,” said Ric.

“I knew things were bad,” Robert said, “but at the time it was happening, I had this feeling of ‘I’ll never die, I’ll never grow old. I’m going to be back to work next week.’ I think I was being a bit naive.”

Hospital, where he would begin the arduous journey of recovery. His whole left side was unresponsive, he had double vision, and he struggled with speaking. The Reyes family also faced mounting medical bills, prompting Ric and Robert’s friend, Blair Stirek, to start a GoFundMe page. Robert still can’t believe how supportive everyone was. “Most of my friends don’t have high-powered jobs. They’re bartenders and service industry folks, so giving \$20 is like giving away your H-E-B money.” The GoFundMe page raised more than \$17,000 in just two months. “I’m glad the funds were there to help pay for hospital bills and not funeral bills,” he joked.

The generosity extended beyond just cash donations. Ric organized volunteers to build a wheelchair accessible ramp to Robert’s apartment and outfit his bathroom with metal grab rails. Friends signed up to make meals and deliver them to Robert’s family while he recovered. People from all of Robert’s various social circles banded together to support their friend however they could. “It was overwhelming,” Ric said.

Rehabilitation was slow at first, but he had his relatively young age on his side and a fierce stubbornness to get his life back to some semblance of normalcy. When he was discharged from the hospital in mid-May, he was in a wheelchair and going to therapy three times a week. By early June, he had moved on to a walker. Two weeks later, he switched to a cane. His eyesight was slowly correcting itself, and his speech was getting clearer every day. His swift recovery continued to surprise his doctors. He was back to reading comic books, and watching *Murder, She Wrote*, but something was missing.

“I really thought I would never ride a bike again,” Robert said. Enter Bob Whitford, a senior occupational therapist, and a member of Robert’s rehabilitation team. “I’m the bicycle guy around here,” Whitford said. “Anytime a cyclist is in need, I use that as a carrot to engage them.” Coincidentally (or was it kismet?), a friend had recently donated an adult-sized tricycle, and Whitford spent a weekend fixing it up. He told Robert he was going to bring something over to his house. Whitford said, “At first he was a little hesitant. He said, ‘I don’t know if I can do this.’ I said, ‘Well, just hop on and see how it feels.’ So he gets on the bike and rides down the street about half a block and turns around to come back. Right then, his parents drive up for a visit, and I look through the window, and his mom is crying. I don’t think she knew how far he had come.”

Robert continues to make strides in his recovery. When he was discharged, he kept a calendar on hand to record his milestones, however small. Sample entries: “tied shoe,” “peeled a carrot,” and then as the months go on, “drove car,” and “walked a mile with cane.” A recent entry – “back to work!” – meant having to figure out his new role at the Drafthouse, since going back to working the floor at the Ritz was not an option. He now works at the main office, helping with social media and writing copy for the Alamo’s website. As League said, “Robert was always there to give me honest feedback and wanted to make sure we kept true to our initial philosophy and ideas about the business. One of those ideas is to take care of your staff when they are in hard times. And Robert certainly had some brutally hard times this year. I’m happy that Robert was able to pull through it, continues to make progress toward a complete recovery, and is now doing great work for us in a completely new part of the company.” He added, “He’s an inspiration for us all to stay positive even when life is punching you in the face.”

The Force is strong with this one. ■



FILM LISTINGS CONTINUED FROM P.53 times, and endures numerous assaults to his body by unstable terrain, falling rocks, and unfriendly varmints. Most unusual is that Arlo is accompanied on his journey by a human boy who grunts and scrambles about on all fours, whom he names Spot. Wary at first, these two ostensible orphans develop a relationship and mode of understanding. A sequence during which the two figure out a way to communicate the similarity of their situations is poignant beyond measure. Most of all, Arlo and Spot learn about friendship and emotional ties. Plus, it's no small thing to witness a world in which human beings are not the top dogs in the animal kingdom.

The plot bogs a bit during these adventures; some episodes are more entertaining and meaningful than others. The animation of the animals is fairly basic, but the recreation of the American Northwest scenery is stunning to behold. Mountains, rivers, rocky expanses, woolly mammoth herds, a field of fireflies – there's always something sumptuous to look at. Additionally, much creative thought has been devoted to figuring out how the dinosaurs might till the land or solve other problems, using their bodies as tools or weapons. *The Good Dinosaur* may not be as revolutionary as 1914's "Gertie the Dinosaur," but as *Jurassic World* already demonstrated this year, we never tire of these prehistoric critters. The feature is preceded by a delightful, eight-minute-long animated short, "Sanjay's Super Team."

★★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, ALAMO VILLAGE, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM CEDAR PARK, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, CM SOUTHPARK MEADOWS, CM STONE HILL TOWN CENTER, FLIX BREWHOUSE, HIGHLAND, GATEWAY, IPI, LAKELINE, MOVIEHOUSE, TINSELTOWN NORTH

INJI IDUPPAZHAGI

D: Prakash Kovelamudi; with Anushka Shetty, Arya, Sonal Chauhan. (NR, 150 min., subtitled)

Not reviewed at press time. An overweight Indian woman has trouble finding a suitor. Tamil version.

– Marjorie Baumgarten
TINSELTOWN NORTH

LEGEND

D: Brian Helgeland; with Tom Hardy, Emily Browning, David Thewlis, Sam Spruell, Christopher Eccleston, Tara Fitzgerald. (R, 131 min.)

Probably – and one suspects rightfully – the word "legend" will be used five or six decades from now, when Tom Hardy dodgers onstage to accept his lifetime achievement award for a screen career portraying criminals and psychopaths. He's been drawn to both of those types again and again (*Bronson*, *Inception*, *The Dark Knight Rises*, *Mad Max: Fury Road*) and plays both here, pulling double duty as London's infamous Kray twins, Reggie and Ronald. Two Tom Hardys for the price of one certainly sounds like a steal of a deal. But if this movie makes it into his future highlight reel, it'll be for level of difficulty, not because the film itself has made much of a bid for posterity.

Hardy differentiates the two characters with his body and voice work, plus a helpful pair of Sixties-era browline spectacles. Reggie, the brains of the operation, has an easy gait and a confidential lean-in when he's courting Frances (Browning), a delicate neighborhood girl who catches his eye. Hair-trigger Ronnie – he's the one in glasses; also: certifiably insane – moves with a thug's lumber but sounds like he's caught a permanent case of the sniffles. Together, these three make a combustible love triangle: the gangster turned accidental romantic, the girl who makes him promise he'll go straight, and the unhinged gorilla he has pledged to protect since they shared a womb.

As the Krays expand their empire, Frances supplies a running commentary via voiceover, spoon-feeding expository details (which turns out to be a boon; between the heavy East End accents and Hardy's signature growly mumble, the lack of enunciation renders whole chunks of dialogue unknowable), as well as filling in any blanks that writer/director Brian Helgeland (who won the Oscar for his script for *L.A. Confidential*) chooses not to dramatize. For much of the film, it's a niggling question – why precisely is Helgeland favoring her perspective? Eventually, we get

an answer. It packs a punch, but it lends the film more gravitas than it's probably earned.

The look is spot-on – these cat-eyelined ladies with their bouffants, hunched gangsters in smoky barrooms – yet Carter Burwell's uncharacteristically plodding score is oddly out of time. For the film itself, the measuring of time – how it unfolds onscreen, and what takes place offscreen – is a problem. When Helgeland holds his concentration, he delivers a nifty, unbroken slink through a nightclub that spotlights every side of Reggie's warring personalities – the cool-headed club owner, the curling-fisted crime boss, and the sweet guy falling stupid in love. But that scene – smooth as butter, the film's best – is the exception. Mostly *Legend* just lurches.

★★★

– Kimberley Jones
ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR, ARBOR

SIZE ZERO

D: Prakash Kovelamudi; with Anushka Shetty, Arya, Sonal Chauhan. (NR, 150 min., subtitled)

Not reviewed at press time. An overweight Indian woman has trouble finding a suitor. Telugu version.

– Marjorie Baumgarten
TINSELTOWN NORTH

TAMASHA

D: Imtiaz Ali; with Deepika Padukone, Ranbir Kapoor, Javed Sheikh. (NR, 139 min., subtitled)

Not reviewed at press time. Hindi-language romantic drama about free spirits who fall in love while exploring France.

– Marjorie Baumgarten
TINSELTOWN NORTH

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Ticket of No Return

D: Ulrike Ottinger; with Tabea Blumenschein, Magdalena Montezuma, Nina Hagen, Eddie Constantine, Orpha Termin, Monika von Cube. (1979, NR, 108 min., subtitled) **Austin Film Society: 30 Years of AFS.** In modern Berlin, populated by eccentric characters, a self-destructive woman embarks on a course of suicide by alcohol and is soon joined by a companion, a woman who drinks happily and enjoys the zest of life. Along the way, we see the glorious and ruinous underside of Berlin and meet many of its eccentric dwellers. @Marchesa Hall & Theatre, Thursday (12/3), 7:30pm.



★ VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

D: Paul McGuigan; with Daniel Radcliffe, James McAvoy, Jessica Brown Findlay, Andrew Scott, Freddie Fox, Charles Dance, Daniel Mays, Callum Turner, Mark Gattis. (PG-13, 110 min.)

Daniel Radcliffe cleans up nicely as Igor, the man behind the madman who makes the monster in this, the 60th (thereabouts) film to adapt or riff on Mary Shelley's prescient 1818 sci-fi/horror novel. Happily, director Paul McGuigan, working from a script by Max Landis, takes the story in some new directions by choosing to retell the tale from the perspective of the famed hunchback. Speaking of which, Igor's malformed frame turns out to be entirely different from Quasimodo's situation, as the medical student Frankenstein (McAvoy, wonderfully manic in the role) diagnoses his condition as little more than a gigantic, acne-like pustule, which he then drains. Ick, yes, but inspired nonetheless! Shorn of his wild-man 'do and kitted out in a natty velveteen suit, Igor (as he is christened by Frankenstein) looks all the Victorian rage – too scientifically curious to be a posh boy but perfect as a “partner” for the crazed whiz kid Victor.

It should be noted here that *Victor Frankenstein* arrives with a surfeit of contemporary subtext not referenced in the cinematic canon since Paul Morrissey's *Flesh for Frankenstein*, aka *Andy Warhol's Frankenstein*. Not for nothing does Victor dub Igor his partner. The film is front-loaded with an underlying, albeit PG-13-friendly, queer sensibility that then takes an interesting turn into something of an unconsummated ménage à trois with the arrival of the deeply religious Scotland Yard Inspector Turpin (Scott, best known to audiences as *Sherlock's* nemesis Moriarty). All of these gender/sexuality tidbits are self-referencing one of Hollywood's first “out” directors, James Whale, who famously helmed the first two Universal monster classics *Frankenstein* and the superior *Bride of Frankenstein*. “Dr. Pretorious, I presume?”

The inspector, it turns out, is investigating the theft of various mammalian body parts from the London Zoo, and also the recent demise of a circus worker at the hands, possibly, of the missing, nameless

hunchback. Fingering a crucifix and muttering about Satan and such, the inspector is every bit as frenzied as Frankenstein. The perpetual war dance between science and organized religion has rarely been so entertainingly addressed as it is here, with both Frankenstein and the inspector coming across as their own worst enemies. The galvanic results of Victor and Igor's labors, presaged by the reanimation of a cobbled-together chimpanzee (a terrific melding of practical creature effects and CGI), feels almost like an afterthought. In a throwaway line that made me laugh out loud, a totally toasted Frankenstein insists to Igor that their creation must have a flat head, “because I like it!” Humor of the gallows sort and otherwise runs through *Victor Frankenstein* like a trickle of a coagulating gore. Nods to Jack Pierce's iconic, Karloffian monster design of 1931, Victorian opium consumption, and even Mel Brooks' *Young Frankenstein* pop out all over the place, nicely placed and often when you least expect them.

In this age of genetic messing about and virulent anti-intellectualism, the enlightened, romantic Frankensteinian take on mankind's rush to transcend itself (via science, or religion) can seem quaint, yet here the message remains essentially the same: Hubris unchained leads to folly, and homunculi are always bad news.

★★★ – Marc Savlov
ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, FLIX BREWHOUSE, HIGHLAND, GATEWAY, IPIC, LAKELINE, MOVIEHOUSE, TINSELTOWN NORTH

FIRST RUNS

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

★ ANT-MAN

D: Peyton Reed; with Paul Rudd, Michael Douglas, Evangeline Lilly, Corey Stoll, Michael Peña, Bobby Cannavale, T.I., Martin Donovan, David Dastmalchian. (PG-13, 117 min.)

Marvel's long-awaited *Ant-Man* project – a breezy, funny, well-crafted summer confection that more than makes up for this summer's overwrought *Avengers* entry – opens as electrical engineer-turned-thief Scott Lang (Rudd) is released from prison into the arms of Luis (Peña), a fellow ex-con with a hot tip on burgling some old guy's house. That old guy ends up being Dr. Hank Pym (Douglas), a scientist who has discovered the key to shrinking anything to miniature size – technology which baddie Darren Cross (Stoll) now seeks to militarize. Soon, Pym enlists Lang to don an experimental suit, enabling him to shrink down and command ant armies at will, in order to retrieve Cross' prototype, Yellowjacket. Many hijinks ensue in what is essentially the Marvel Universe's first straight-up comedy, and thankfully, it works. *Ant-Man* is infectious, silly entertainment, a popcorn flick that knows what it is and does what it does to an intoxicating degree. (07/17/2015)

★★★ – Josh Kupecki
LAKE CREEK 7

★ BLACK MASS

D: Scott Cooper; with Johnny Depp, Joel Edgerton, Benedict Cumberbatch, Jesse Plemons, Rory Cochrane, W. Earl Brown, Dakota Johnson, David Harbour, Kevin Bacon, Julianne Nicholson, Corey Stoll. (R, 122 min.)

Too soon? By necessity, this crime drama about the notorious South Boston gang leader James “Whitey” Bulger begins in a hole it can never dig out of. It's the portrait of a monster told in a flat line. Initially, Johnny Depp's Whitey is hiding in plain sight – not exactly inconspicuous with his cadaverous makeup and icy blue contacts – but, when he turns informant, *Black Mass* soon evolves into a dual narrative, with Southie boy John

Connolly (Edgerton) becoming Bulger's handler. In theory there's an arc there – the fall from grace of a once-reputable lawman who becomes the protector of a psychopath – but Connolly's depiction suffers from the same flatline-itis. If only the film could have sustained its momentum, or found a way into *feeling* not just showing Bulger's dark depths. Sprawling yet incomplete, *Black Mass* might not be just too soon, but too much. (09/18/2015)

★★★ – Kimberley Jones
LAKE CREEK 7

★ BROOKLYN

D: John Crowley; with Saoirse Ronan, Emory Cohen, Domhnall Gleeson, Julie Walters, Jim Broadbent, Jane Brennan, Fiona Glascott, Jessica Paré. (PG-13, 111 min.)

There's a beguiling simplicity to Ronan's performance in the lovely and nostalgic *Brooklyn*, as young immigrant Ellis Lacey, who departs Ireland in the early Fifties for a hopeful future in the titular New York City borough. It's a painful transition for this less-than-worldly girl – in the rearview mirror, the Emerald Isle never looked greener – but as time changes, so does Ellis, and when she returns to Ireland for a short visit, she's no longer the mousy girl who left the year before. Still, the bittersweet question she faces is one without a seemingly easy answer: If home is where the heart is, where does her heart truly lie? Screenwriter Nick Hornby scores again in this adaptation of Colm Tóibín's novel – he makes something old-fashioned seem fashionable – and director John Crowley reimagines the period beautifully. If you're yearning to take a sentimental journey, *Brooklyn* is the perfect destination. (11/20/2015)

★★★★ – Steve Davis
ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR, ARBOR, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, IPIC, TINSELTOWN NORTH, VIOLET CROWN

★ BY THE SEA

D: Angelina Jolie Pitt; with Jolie Pitt, Brad Pitt, Mélanie Laurent, Melvil Poupaud, Niels Arestrup. (R, 132 min.)

This movie won't be for everyone. It's far from the real-life Brangelina sideshow, but the world-famous couple can't be completely disentangled from *By the Sea*. Written and directed by Angelina Jolie Pitt, she also co-stars with husband Brad Pitt as a married couple going through a rough patch. Set sometime in the Seventies, the film begins as Vanessa and Roland – she's a former dancer, he's a blocked novelist – arrive at a lovely hotel on the Côte d'Azur. The days pass idly, until an infusion of energy arrives in the form of a hole in the wall where they can surreptitiously view the sexcapades of the newlyweds next door (Laurent and Poupaud). The couple that peeps together keeps together, as some wag might say. Jolie Pitt never quite scratches beneath the surface gloss, but she's made a movie that's incomparable with anything else that's being produced these days. No small feat, that. (11/20/2015)

★★★ – Marjorie Baumgarten
ARBOR, BARTON CREEK SQUARE

Buffalo Bill and the Indians, or Sitting Bull's History Lesson

D: Robert Altman; with Paul Newman, Geraldine Chaplin, Harvey Keitel, Burt Lancaster, Kevin McCarthy, Frank Kaquitts, Joel Grey, Pat McCormick. (1976, PG, 123 min.) **Authentic Altman.** Altman's portrait of Buffalo Bill as a cynical showman was not well-received at the time of its release, but the film has stood the test of time as a prophetic vision of American spirit and Native American ignuinity. @Alamo Ritz, Saturday, 2:45pm.



CRIMSON PEAK

D: Guillermo del Toro; with Mia Wasikowska, Jessica Chastain, Tom Hiddleston, Charlie Hunnam, Jim Beaver, Burn Gorman, Leslie Hope, Jonathan Hyde, Doug Jones. (R, 119 min.)

Mexican fantasist Guillermo del Toro's first real foray into the realm of Gothic horror-romance, *Crimson Peak* sets a new high-water mark for the director in terms of sheer, sepulchral eye candy – yet all that outré beauty and highly stylized visual grandeur can't make up for what feels like an oddly cobbled-together movie that plays out in fits and snatches and never fully kicks into high ghostly gear. Widowed heiress Edith Cushing (Wasikowska) – smitten with one of her industrialist father's potential clients, the English baronet Thomas Sharpe (Hiddleston) – ends up leaving with him and his sister Lucille (Chastain), to return to their crumbling ancestral manse in Cumberland. Once there, however, Edith uncovers a cackling clawful of ghastly secrets. Supernatural melodramatics, and Wasikowska's seemingly endless blond coif, prevail. While all three leads are well-cast, *Crimson Peak's* disjointed, laggy storyline renders it second-tier del Toro. Which is, of course, first-tier anyone else. (10/16/2015)

★★★ – Marc Savlov
LAKE CREEK 7

★ EVEREST

D: Baltasar Kormákur; with Jason Clarke, Josh Brolin, Jake Gyllenhaal, John Hawkes, Emily Watson, Sam Worthington, Michael Kelly, Thomas Wright, Keira Knightley, Robin Wright, Martin Henderson. (PG-13, 121 min.)

The world's highest summit ominously presides over the chaotic tragedy in *Everest* with a serene yet brutal authority: The mountain will always have the last word. Based on the ill-fated 1996 ascent of the Himalayan peak by two expedition groups, during which several persons perished, the film mercilessly depicts the physical anguish these climbers endure in order to join that elite five-and-a-half-mile-high club. While the film provides some insight into the personal lives of a few of the climbers – such as the macho Texas doctor whose brashness masks a depressive streak (Brolin) – Icelandic director Kormákur and screenwriters William Nicholson and Simon Beaufoy wisely choose to tell this ensemble-driven story in a methodical, almost documentary-like fashion, without any overt commentary on the hubris of lofty dreams. Unrelenting cold, lacerating wind, blinding snow – *Everest* is an unflinching sensory experience, a movie you feel deeply in the pit of your stomach. (09/18/2015)

★★★★ – Steve Davis
LAKE CREEK 7

GOOSEBUMPS

D: Rob Letterman; with Jack Black, Dylan Minnette, Odeya Rush, Ryan Lee, Amy Ryan, Jillian Bell, Ken Marino. (PG, 103 min.)

The creepy tales of kid-lit scaremeister R.L. Stine literally leap off the page in *Goosebumps*, a monster mish-mash too lazy and cynical to actually terrify anyone. Based on the absurdly popular anthology of horror fiction that sold over 400 million books during its heyday, the film's conceit is admittedly an interesting one: A trio of teens unwittingly unleashes on their sleepy little town the literary mayhem in the locked manuscripts of Stine's works, much to the authorial dismay of the man who created those walking nightmares (a weirdly accented Black). The chaos soon escalates into a CGI-laden orgy of assorted bogeymen, as Stine and his accomplices attempt to contain the pandemonium. Let's be honest: Kids deserve better than this. While the film's half-baked comedic shortcomings might be forgivable, its utter lack of scariness defies pardon. What once kept the young'uns up at night will now have them yawning way before bedtime. (10/23/2015)

★ – Steve Davis
TINSELTOWN NORTH

HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 2

D: Genndy Tartakovsky; with the voices of Adam Sandler, Andy Samberg, Selena Gomez, Kevin James, Steve Buscemi, David Spade, Jon Lovitz, Fran Drescher, Nick Offerman, Megan Mullally, Keegan-Michael Key, Molly Shannon, Dana Carvey, Mel Brooks. (PG, 89 min.)

Three years after Adam Sandler's family-friendly animated romp *Hotel Transylvania*, we check in to that establishment once again for an uninspired sequel that may entertain the wee ones for 90 minutes, but leaves adults out in the cold. When we last left Dracula (Sandler) and his daughter Mavis (Gomez), she had fallen head-over-heels for Jonathan (Samberg), an anomalous human amidst the monsters that comprise the “Drac Pack”:

The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance

D: John Ford; with James Stewart, John Wayne, Vera Miles, Lee Marvin. (1962, NR, 123 min.) **Western Film Series.** This is the American classic that uses the now-famous line: “When the legend becomes fact, print the legend.” Ford addresses the complexity of heroism in a poetic manner. (*) @Harry Ransom Center, Saturday, 3pm.



Frankenstein (James), the Invisible Man (Spade), the Wolfman (Buscemi), and the Mummy (Key). Now, soon after Mavis and Jonathan's wedding, little baby Dennis appears. With Dracula worried that his vampire genes haven't taken, it falls upon the Drac Pack to teach toddler Dennis the benefits of being a monster. Younger children may find some chortles in *Hotel Transylvania 2*, but the film has no bite, doing continued disservice to the Universal monsters it scabs out, and adding another soiled feather to Sandler's cap of mediocrity. (09/25/2015)

★ – Josh Kupecki
LAKE CREEK 7

🌟 THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY - PART 2

D: Francis Lawrence; with Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth, Donald Sutherland, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Julianne Moore, Woody Harrelson, Natalie Dormer, Willow Shields, Mahershala Ali, Michelle Forbes. (PG-13, 137 min.)

The final installment of Suzanne Collins' wildly popular YA trilogy does not linger on past events, so if you have any confusion, you'd best do your homework. Opening seconds after last year's installment ended – Katniss (Lawrence) is recovering from the throttling she received from Peeta (Hutcherson) after he was “hijacked” by President Coriolanus Snow (Sutherland) – *Mockingjay – Part 2* starts slowly, with insurgent leader Alma Coin (Moore) and Plutarch Heavensbee (Hoffman, in his final role) strategizing their assault on the Capitol. But once Katniss goes rogue and hitches a ride on a supply shuttle to the front line, the film finds its groove. No spoilers here, but this final chapter is a solid conclusion for the franchise – an entertaining and exciting dystopian adventure that should satisfy fans of the series. It sets a high bar for YA adaptations that doesn't look like it's going to be raised anytime soon. (11/20/2015)

★★★★ – Josh Kupecki
ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR, ALAMO VILLAGE, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, BULLOCK TEXAS STATE HISTORY MUSEUM, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, FLIX BREWHOUSE, HIGHLAND, GATEWAY, IPIC, LAKELINE, METROPOLITAN, MOVIEHOUSE, TINSELTOWN NORTH

JURASSIC WORLD

D: Colin Trevorrow; with Chris Pratt, Bryce Dallas Howard, Ty Simpkins, Nick Robinson, Irrfan Khan, Vincent D'Onofrio, Omar Sy, BD Wong, Judy Greer, Jake Johnson. (PG-13, 124 min.)

Well, it's better than *Jurassic Park III*, I'll give them that. This fourth film in the franchise has more than a few snazzy beasties going for it, and the CGI is light years away from Spielberg's monstrously entertaining 1993 original, but the storyline relies far too heavily on the tried and true and decidedly cliched (which, as in 1993, should stop no one from going to the theatre). The film's requisite love interests are ex-Marine Owen (Pratt, charming) and Type-A park manager Claire (Howard), who manages to misplace her nephews, Gray and Zach (Simpkins and Robinson), just as the park's newest attraction busts loose and lays predictable waste to everything and everyone around it. It's all in good fun, and critic-proof to boot, but *Jurassic World* doesn't even come close to that most intimate and dearly coveted “Gosh, wow” sense of wonder that the original mustered so easily. Roar more, bite less. (06/12/2015)

★★★ – Marc Savlov
MILLENNIUM

LOVE THE COOPERS

D: Jessie Nelson; with Diane Keaton, John Goodman, Olivia Wilde, Jake Lacy, Marisa Tomei, Ed Helms, Amanda Seyfried, Alan Arkin, June Squibb, Anthony Mackie, Timothée Chalamet, Alex Borstein. (PG-13, 106 min.)

Love the Coopers: a valediction hastily scribbled at the bottom of a Christmas card, or an entreaty to embrace yet another white upper-middle-class heterosexual Protestant family in a holiday-themed movie? Straddling the thorny fence of dramedy, this sometimes-serious, often unfunny entry in the tra-la-la movie sweepstakes has all of its familial dysfunctions on awkward display: the teetering marriage of the Cooper clan's backbone couple (Goodman and Keaton); an unlikely relationship between a daughter who has a history of bad choices (Wilde) and a soldier on leave (Lacy); and an impromptu psychotherapy session between a spinster aunt (Tomei) and a closeted cop (Mackie). The movie lacks a consistency: Should you laugh, cry, sigh, shrug your shoulders? *Love the Coopers* wants to have it any way possible, without achieving a particular point of view. As it turns out, the Coopers ain't so lovable, no matter what time of year it may be. (11/13/2015)

★★★ – Steve Davis
ALAMO LAKELINE, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA

🌟 THE MARTIAN

D: Ridley Scott; with Matt Damon, Jessica Chastain, Jeff Daniels, Kristen Wiig, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Michael Peña, Kate Mara, Aksel Hennie, Sebastian Stan, Sean Bean, Mackenzie Davis. (PG-13, 141 min.)

The geek is the hero in the consistently entertaining *The Martian*. True to Andy Weir's bestselling sci-fi source novel, the film's protagonist astronaut, Mark Watney (Damon, close to perfect), is the imagined offspring of Robinson Crusoe and Angus MacGyver, a can-do optimist who must rely on his scientific wits to stay alive after being left stranded on Mars, mistakenly presumed dead by his fellow NASA crew members. Staving off loneliness by engaging in a never-ending conversation with himself (and the audience), the ever-focused Watney demonstrates that human strength is not only measured by muscle mass, but by brains and sheer determination as well. Veteran director Ridley Scott (*Alien*) exhibits an assured hand here: The film is a triumph of storytelling, a tribute to the power of the crowd-pleaser. To borrow from the tagline of another Ridley Scott movie set in a desolate cosmos: In space no one can hear you cheer. (10/02/2015)

★★★★ – Steve Davis
ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, MOVIEHOUSE

MAZE RUNNER: THE SCORCH TRIALS

D: Wes Ball; with Dylan O'Brien, Kaya Scodelario, Thomas Brodie-Sangster, Ki Hong Lee, Rosa Salazar, Giancarlo Esposito, Patricia Clarkson, Aidan Gillen. (PG-13, 131 min.)

This sequel to last year's *The Maze Runner* hardly mentions the first film's titular labyrinth, through which a group of memory-wiped teenagers scurried like lab rats. *The Scorch Trials* tenders no refresher, so here's the spoiler: The gang escaped and discovered they were part of an elaborate experiment, only – gotcha! – the kids' airlift to safety was actually just the beginning of phase two in the experiment. Still with me? Don't sweat it. Wes Ball's *Maze*

Runner series, just like James Dashner's book trilogy, is a circulator pump of joke's-on-you reversals. To pick apart the plot is to beat a fast path to Nowheresville. The point is: These kids are on the run. Again. Despite some terrific action set-pieces and superlative CGI work, *The Scorch Trials* is supremely silly stuff, and overall a much lesser version of teens vs. the titans of post-apocalypse industry – a copy of a copy of a copy. (09/18/2015)

★★ – Kimberley Jones
LAKE CREEK 7

MINIONS

D: Kyle Balda, Pierre Coffin; with the voices of Coffin, Sandra Bullock, Jon Hamm, Michael Keaton, Allison Janney, Steve Coogan, Jennifer Saunders, Geoffrey Rush, Steve Carell. (PG, 91 min.)

Just five years ago, these Minions were mere background noise in the kiddie cartoon *Despicable Me*. Now here they are starring in their own vehicle – toddler-tiny, banana-colored, and chattering away in their polyglot pidgin gibberish as they search high and low for a dastardly master to serve. *Minions* is slight, bright, bopping entertainment. Like a child – its target demo, after all – nothing holds the film's attention for very long, which means it squanders several clever setups in the blink of an eye. But the fleetness of Brian Lynch's script mostly works in the film's favor. No gag gets overlavished, no plotline overstays its welcome. The film is also set, somewhat arbitrarily, in 1968, which inspires some nifty retro looks. The foregrounded animation of the heroes and villains is well-executed, the background detail is exquisite, and – best yet – there's a mid-film bedtime story that'll take your breath away. (07/10/2015)

★★★ – Kimberley Jones
LAKE CREEK 7

🌟 MY ALL AMERICAN

D: Angelo Pizzo; with Finn Wittrock, Aaron Eckhart, Sarah Bolger, Robin Tunney, Michael Reilly Burke, Rett Terrell, Juston Street, Donny Boaz. (PG, 118 min.)

Texas football fans sure could use a spot of good news this season, although it's tough to say if this loving por-



UPCOMING FILMS

TICKET OF NO RETURN (1979)

December 3 at 7:30 PM

Ulrike Ottinger's love poem to the lower depths of bohemian Berlin, as seen through the prism of two women who drink for different reasons.

AFS Founder & Artistic Director Richard Linklater will host the event.

TOM AT THE FARM (2013)

December 4 & 6

Xavier Dolan, enfant terrible of world cinema, surprises audiences again with a Hitchcock-infused thriller about a young gay man who visits his deceased lover's family for the funeral and finds himself caught in their web of denial and brutality.

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Generation Annihilation Marathon

Sat, Nov. 28 @ South Lamar

A furious anti-family primal scream session featuring Drafthouse Films' WORLD OF KANAKO and three other movies too dangerous to be named!



BUFFALO BILL & THE INDIANS

Sat, Nov. 28 @ Ritx

Robert Altman turns his cutting gaze towards American myth making itself, turning the way we create history into a blistering showbiz satire.



ENTER THE DRAGON

on Bruce Lee's 75th birthday

Fri, Nov. 27 @ South Lamar

The dominantly influential Bruce Lee martial arts masterpiece that spawned a thousand and one sequels, remakes, spoofs, and straight-up “Bruceploitation” rip-offs.

ALSO SCREENING

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trait of late-Sixties Longhorn safety Freddie Steinmark will bring succor or just rub salt in their wounds. Though Aaron Eckhart gets top billing as beloved UT coach Darrell Royal, this is Steinmark's story. Athletically gifted but undersized, Freddie (Wittrock, sunny and charismatic) makes his mark soon after joining Royal's team in Austin, before eventually going on to become a key contributor to the now-legendary 1969 season that concluded in a National Championship for the Horns. Writer and first-time director Angelo Pizzo (*Hoosiers*, *Rudy*) intuitively understands the beats that make for a great underdog narrative, though this particular story too often moves like a highlight reel, not a rounded drama. *My All American* isn't going to make the sports movie pantheon, but it should be well-received in Longhorn country. (11/13/2015)

★★★
— Kimberley Jones
BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, MOVIEHOUSE, TINSELTOWN NORTH

THE NIGHT BEFORE

D: Jonathan Levine; with Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Seth Rogen, Anthony Mackie, Jillian Bell, Lizzy Caplan, Ilana Glazer, Mindy Kaling, Michael Shannon, Nathan Fielder. (R, 101 min.)

If your Santa wish list includes yet another "James Franco swings secretly gay" gag, then Christmas has come early for you, friend: *The Night Before* has granted that wish. Hopes for a truly great holiday comedy, alas, will be dashed. The elements are all there: the tried-and-true one-crazy-night template; a trio of likable leads in best friends Isaac (Rogen), Ethan (Gordon-Levitt), and Chris (Mackie); a skilled director; and the surprise delight of the forever-frowning Michael Shannon playing a stoned Ghost of Christmas Past, Present, and Future. What could possibly go wrong? Turns out, not enough. This "one crazy night" taps out at lightly kooky. Motoring affably along from one comic set-piece to the next – and a few are very, very funny – *The Night Before* never falls apart, but it never really comes together, either. It's a Christmas gift that'll be forgotten by the time the wrapping paper hits the recycling bin. (11/20/2015)

★★★
— Kimberley Jones
ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, FLIX BREWHOUSE, HIGHLAND, IPIC, MOVIEHOUSE, TINSELTOWN NORTH

PAN

D: Joe Wright; with Hugh Jackman, Levi Miller, Garrett Hedlund, Rooney Mara, Adeel Akhtar, Nonso Anozie, Amanda Seyfried, Kathy Burke. (PG, 111 min.)

Ill-conceived from any number of angles, this Peter Pan origin story plays topsy-turvy with J.M. Barrie's beloved characters by showing us how an orphaned Peter (Miller) first arrives in Neverland, befriends a pre-captaining Hook (Hedlund), and battles the despotic pirate Blackbeard (Jackman), who's seeking eternal life through the dwindling resource of fairy pixie dust. Trotting out old favorites without tracing any of the original's magic, the film roll-calls Tinker Bell, Smee, a premonitory tick-tock, and Tiger Lily, who's played by the bizarrely miscast Rooney Mara. It's not that there isn't imagination at work here – director Joe Wright cooks up some nifty inventions, albeit in infrequent bursts – but kids aren't going to have much patience with the film's drawn-out mystery of Peter's parentage, while adults will bemoan the overlong, dullish action set-pieces. In that respect, the film takes a long walk off a short plank. Bad form, *Pan*. (10/09/2015)

★
— Kimberley Jones
LAKE CREEK 7

THE PEANUTS MOVIE

D: Steve Martino; with the voices of Noah Schnapp, Hadley Belle Miller, Mariel Sheets, Alex Garfin, Francesca Angelucci Capaldi, Venus Omega Schultheis, Rebecca Bloom, Marleik "Mar Mar" Walker, Noah Johnston, Madisyn Shipman, Anastasia Bredikhina, Micah Revelli, A.J. Tecce, William "Alex" Wunsch, Troy "Trumbone Shorty" Andrews, Kristin Chenoweth, Bill Melendez. (G, 89 min.)

Happiness is a warm feature-length animated cartoon called *The Peanuts Movie*, a loving tribute to the beloved comic strip that graced the funny pages for half a century. For those who faithfully read the syndicated strip each day, the movie will comfort like a blue security blanket, bringing back wonderful memories of that lovable loser, Charlie Brown, and his gang, including Lucy, Linus, Sally, Peppermint Patty, Marcie, Pigpen, Schroeder, Woodstock, and (of course) Snoopy. Think of it as a family reunion that reacquaints adults with and introduces youngsters to celebrated characters with a timeless quality. The film's digital animation may offend some purists, but surely everyone can appreciate *The Peanuts Movie*'s positive

Autism in Love

D: Matt Fuller. (2015, NR, 76 min.) **KLRU: Indie Lens Pop-Up.** Documentary explores the lives of four autistic adults pursuing and managing romantic relationships. @Windsor Park Branch Library, Tuesday, 7pm.



message about the importance of character and integrity. When that round-headed optimist Charlie Brown finally speaks to the little red-haired girl of his dreams, a sigh can be heard 'round the world. It's true. Sometimes, nice guys finish first. (11/06/2015)

★★★
— Steve Davis
ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, FLIX BREWHOUSE, HIGHLAND, MOVIEHOUSE, TINSELTOWN NORTH

ROOM

D: Lenny Abrahamson; with Brie Larson, Jacob Tremblay, Joan Allen, Sean Bridgers, Tom McCamus, William H. Macy. (R, 118 min.)

One of the most absorbing, thrilling, and emotionally anguishing yet restorative movies I've seen, *Room* should be entered by all means. Working from Emma Donoghue's adaptation of her own bestselling novel, Lenny Abrahamson (*Frank*) directs with great sensitivity and ingenuity, though what ultimately sells the movie are the two central performances by Brie Larson and young Jacob Tremblay. Jack (Tremblay) lives with Ma (Larson) in Room (no "the") – a dingy toolshed kept under lock and key by the man they call Old Nick (Bridgers) – which is the only place on Earth the 5-year-old has ever known. The second half of the film introduces a whole new set of psychological dimensions which I won't get into here, since it should be experienced cold if possible. *Room* is not something you'd readily call enjoyable, but it is a cathartic and provocative reminder that life is full of possibilities and outcomes. (11/06/2015)

★★★★
— Marjorie Baumgarten
ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR, ARBOR, VIOLET CROWN

SECRET IN THEIR EYES

D: Billy Ray; with Chiwetel Ejiofor, Julia Roberts, Nicole Kidman, Dean Norris, Michael Kelly, Joe Cole, Alfred Molina, Zoe Graham. (PG-13, 111 min.)

Secret in Their Eyes is a tightly wound thriller that will keep viewers guessing until the very end – unless, of course, they're familiar with the source book by Eduardo Sacheri or the Oscar-winning Argentinean film from 2009. One of the intrinsic difficulties of the story is that it interweaves two time periods, set 13 years apart. In 2002, Ray (Ejiofor) and Jess (Roberts) are FBI investigators whose main task is to remotely surveil a mosque in Los Angeles, and Claire (Kidman) is a Harvard-educated newcomer to the D.A.'s office. A horrible crime takes the life of one character's daughter (Austin native Zoe Graham), and 13 years later, Ray shows up again, believing he has finally identified the killer. Chillier than its Argentine predecessor, this new rendition certainly displays writer/director Billy Ray's adept craftsman when it comes to plotting thrillers, but his work with the actors here seems all but absent. (11/20/2015)

★★★
— Marjorie Baumgarten
ALAMO LAKELINE, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, FLIX BREWHOUSE, MOVIEHOUSE, TINSELTOWN NORTH

SPECTRE

D: Sam Mendes; with Daniel Craig, Ralph Fiennes, Monica Bellucci, Christoph Waltz, Léa Seydoux, Andrew Scott, Ben Whishaw, Naomie Harris, Dave Bautista. (PG-13, 148 min.)

When we last left 007 (Craig, clearly over it) in *Skyfall*, he was mourning the death of one M (Judi Dench), while reporting for duty to another (Fiennes), in a throwback to the bread and butter of Bond mythology: Greet Miss Money Penny (Harris), enter those plush leather MI-6 doors, and receive a new assignment that sends him on some global killing spree. *Spectre*'s paper-thin plot finds Bond on a MacGuffin-fueled travelogue to Rome, and then to Austria, touring and destroying enemy strongholds and henchmen until eventually crossing paths with Franz Oberhauser (Waltz), who seems to have been behind all of Bond's woes. So, where does it go? All the old familiar places, of course. The third act is all ticking time bombs and damsels in distress, though the film runs aground well ahead of its excessive running time. A drab, anemic machine, *Spectre* may bring the spectacle, but it lacks a soul. (11/06/2015)

★★★
— Josh Kupecki
ALAMO LAKELINE, ALAMO SLAUGHTER LANE, ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR, ALAMO VILLAGE, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, FLIX BREWHOUSE, HIGHLAND, IPIC, MOVIEHOUSE, TINSELTOWN NORTH

SPOTLIGHT

D: Tom McCarthy; with Mark Ruffalo, Michael Keaton, Rachel McAdams, Liev Schreiber, Brian d'Arcy James, John Slattery, Stanley Tucci, Len Cariou, Billy Crudup, Paul Guilfoyle, Jamey Sheridan. (R, 128 min.)

Spotlight is a terrific newspaper movie. Admittedly, the subject matter is a sentimental favorite for me, and I thrill to see the daily details of the work and milieu depicted with such knowing accuracy. The movie retraces the probe conducted in late 2001 and early 2002 by *The Boston Globe*'s "Spotlight" investigative team – editor Walter Robinson (Keaton), reporters Mike Rezendes (Ruffalo) and Sacha Pfeiffer (McAdams), researcher Matt Carroll (d'Arcy James), section editor Ben Bradlee Jr. (Slattery), and editor-in-chief Marty Baron (Schreiber) – into allegations of the sexual abuse of minors by Catholic priests. Tom McCarthy (*The Station Agent*) has become something of an actor's director, and that sensitivity to the ensemble comes through here. But most of all, he reins in this sub-genre's tendency to paint its newspaper people as heroic crusaders with beautiful faces. *Spotlight* is a story about people doing their jobs, and combating scandalous misdeeds with dogged determination. (11/20/2015)

★★★★
— Marjorie Baumgarten
ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR, ARBOR, BARTON CREEK SQUARE, CM HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA, CM ROUND ROCK, TINSELTOWN NORTH, VIOLET CROWN

STEVE JOBS

D: Danny Boyle; with Michael Fassbender, Kate Winslet, Seth Rogen, Jeff Daniels, Michael Stuhlbarg, Katherine Waterston. (R, 122 min.)

In this fictionalized portrait of Apple co-founder Steve Jobs (Fassbender), writer Aaron Sorkin has engineered the perfect conduit for his trademark oratorical lashings: a visionary and a jerk. Structured in three acts – with each revolving around the frantic minutes leading up to a product launch: 1984's first Macintosh, 1988's NeXT computer, and 1998's iMac – *Steve Jobs* trawls the notion of a workplace family, cannily counterpoising that dynamic with Jobs' own private turmoil over being adopted and with the flesh-and-blood daughter, Lisa (played in the three eras by Sobo, Moss, and Haney-Jardine). Apple gadgetry may be the film's framework, but it's the chewing over damaged families that fills the rooms in Boyle's film, which is both serious and seriously so much fun. Because what could be more fun, more *exhilarating*, than to watch a bunch of talented people at the top of their craft, presented in a film that is both challenging and entertaining? (10/16/2015)

★★★★
— Kimberley Jones
ARBOR, LAKE CREEK 7

SUFFRAGETTE

D: Sarah Gavron; with Carey Mulligan, Helena Bonham Carter, Brendan Gleeson, Anne-Marie Duff, Ben Whishaw, Meryl Streep, Natalie Press, Romola Garai, Finbar Lynch. (PG-13, 106 min.)

With little more novelty than a chapter in a standard-issue history book, *Suffragette* soldiers through its story about the fight waged by British women during the early decades of the 20th century to win the right to vote. It's an important story to tell, yes, but the resulting film is narratively wan and disappointing. We first meet the film's central character, fictional working-class wife and mother

Maud Watts (Mulligan), in 1912, just as the women's suffrage movement is beginning to engage in acts of civil disobedience. Maud gradually becomes radicalized through her friendship with Violet Miller (Duff), before eventually becoming a co-conspirator of real-life martyr Emily Wilding Davison. Despite the vividness of the movement and the philosophical underpinnings of its tactical shifts, there is little surprise in *Suffragette*'s story structure and even less dimensionality to the characters. Somehow, the film makes these relatively recent events feel like musty history. (11/06/2015)

★★★
— Marjorie Baumgarten
ARBOR

THE 33

D: Patricia Riggen; with Antonio Banderas, Rodrigo Santoro, Juliette Binoche, Lou Diamond Phillips, Gabriel Byrne, James Brolin, Mario Casas, Jacob Vargas, Juan Pablo Raba, Oscar Nuñez, Tenoch Huerta, Adriana Barraza, Kate del Castillo, Bob Gunton. (PG-13, 120 min.)

Converting a recent, true event that gripped the world's attention into popcorn entertainment is almost tantamount to admitting defeat from the get-go. Gone is the suspense, as well as the inherent fascination of watching the situation unfold. Still, this account of the 33 Chilean miners – among them Mario Sepúlveda (Banderas), a natural leader – trapped below ground for 69 days after the 2010 collapse of the San José Mine in the Atacama Desert, might have been more engaging were it not for the melodrama heavily larded into the screenplay. *The 33* opens with the notice that every year 12,000 miners die in accidents around the world, and closes with reminders that the San José mine owners were deemed not guilty of negligence and that the 33 have never been compensated for their trauma. Next time someone tries to tell this saga on film, I suggest they frame it as a crime story. (11/13/2015)

★★★
— Marjorie Baumgarten
TINSELTOWN NORTH

TRUMBO

D: Jay Roach; with Bryan Cranston, Diane Lane, Louis C.K., Elle Fanning, Helen Mirren, Michael Stuhlbarg, John Goodman, Stephen Root, Alan Tudyk, Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje, Roger Bart. (R, 124 min.)

Call it history-adjacent. The sober-minded *Trumbo* – director Jay Roach's too-twee and terribly theatrical rendering of the battle that blacklisted Hollywood screenwriter Dalton Trumbo (Cranston) fought and finally won – dutifully clops through what came before and after the writer's famous appearance before the House Un-American Activities Committee in 1947 to discuss his perfectly legal involvement in the Communist Party. Trumbo declined to cooperate, along with other subpoenaed writers and directors; that first wave of unfriendly witnesses became immortalized as the Hollywood Ten, blacklisted from future work and forced to write under pseudonyms. *Trumbo* certainly has pep, but it's all nearly undone by the film's ironic decision to composite several Hollywood Ten writers into a single made-up guy (played by Louis C.K. – not his fault). In a movie explicitly about men stripped of their names, it seems exceptionally bad form to do the same in service of narrative expediency. (11/20/2015)

★★★
— Kimberley Jones
ARBOR, VIOLET CROWN

WAR ROOM

D: Alex Kendrick; with Priscilla C. Shirer, T.C. Stallings, Karen Abercrombie, Beth Moore, Michael Jr., Jadin Harris, Tenae Downing, Alena Pitts. (PG, 120 min.)

In this film's tortured metaphor, prayer is war, and penitents are enlistees in God's army against the devil. Miss Clara (Abercrombie), a tiny, fire-breathing widow, is the one who cooks up this concept – presumably inspired by her late husband's career in the Army – before passing it along to her realtor, Elizabeth (Shirer), who is unhappily married to a sourpuss named Jordan (Stallings) and somewhat absent-mindedly raising their cowed young daughter (Pitts). Miss Clara's advice – and plainly the argument of filmmaker duo the Kendrick Brothers, too – isn't for marriage counseling. Nope, the solution is to pray hard and ask God to do the rest. The Kendricks' emphatically anti-feminist picture of faith, which repeatedly underscores the idea that a woman must be submissive to her husband, will only further limit their audience. I'm no expert on warmongering, but alienating half your army doesn't seem like sound strategy. (08/28/2015)

★★★
— Kimberley Jones
LAKE CREEK 7

SPECIAL SCREENINGS

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

THURSDAY 11/26

Elf Movie Party (2003) *D: Jon Favreau; with Will Ferrell, James Caan, Zoëy Deschanel.* (PG, 107 min.) Props, contest, and snowball fight in the theatre are just some of the party perks. @Alamo Ritz, 6:30, 9:10.

Planes, Trains & Automobiles Quote-Along (1987) *D: John Hughes; with John Candy, Steve Martin.* (R, 93 min.) **Action Pack.** @Alamo Ritz, 3:35pm.

Space Jam (1996) *D: Joe Pytka; with Michael Jordan, Wayne Knight, Theresa Randle, Bill Murray, Danny Devito.* (PG, 87 min.) **Alamo Kids Camp.** Dexterously mixing live action and animation, *Space Jam* tosses NBA champ Michael Jordan onto the 2-D court with the entire Looney Tunes gang and the opposing Monstar team of cartoon characters from another planet. (*) @Alamo Lakeline, 10:25am.

FRIDAY 11/27

Beyoncé Sing-Along Party Action Pack. @Alamo Lakeline, 10pm.

Elf Movie Party (2003) @Alamo Ritz, 1:30, 4:10, 6:50, 9:30. (See Thursday, 11/26.)

★ **Enter the Dragon (1973)** *D: Robert Clouse; with Bruce Lee, Jim Kelly, John Saxon.* (R, 97 min.) **Big Screen Classics.** With *Enter the Dragon* – one of the all-time best martial arts action films and the first to be produced in the U.S. – master Bruce Lee exited the scene, his mysterious death and expert physical prowess cementing his legacy for eternity. @Alamo South Lamar, 7pm.

Space Jam (1996) **Alamo Kids Camp.** @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 9:30am. (See Thursday, 11/26.)

SPACES

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone and Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Parts 1 & 2 **Harry Potter at the Drive-In.** Triple feature. Summary catch-up contest during intermission. @Blue Starlite Drive-In, 6pm.

SATURDAY 11/28

Anna Karenina (2012) *D: Joe Wright; with Keira Knightley, Jude Law, Aaron Taylor-Johnson, Domhnall Gleeson.* (R, 129 min.) **Afternoon Tea.** Bold imagining of Tolstoy's classic is set mostly within the walls of a theatre. (*) @Alamo Lakeline, 4pm.

★ **Buffalo Bill and the Indians, or Sitting Bull's History Lesson (1976)** See p.56.

★ **Cinevana Austin Cinevana.** This Los Angeles non-profit presents a program of student films from around the world. Visit www.cinevana.com for the lineup. @Lake Creek 7, 6pm.

Generation Annihilation: A World of Kanako Marathon *D: Various.* This “furious anti-family primal scream session” features Draffhouse Films’ upcoming release, *The World of Kanako*, and three other similarly themed but unnamed titles. @Alamo South Lamar, 6pm.

Hanksgiving Celebration Master Pancake. Instead of roasting a turkey, these jokesters are roasting the career of Tom Hanks. @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) *D: Jim Sharman.* (R, 95 min.) For more info, see www.austinrocky.org. @Alamo Village, 12mid.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Dec. 11 issue is Monday, Nov. 30.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 512/458-6910; or email. Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com; Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): calendar@austinchronicle.com.

THE SYMBOL (*) INDICATES FULL-LENGTH REVIEWS AVAILABLE ONLINE: **AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/FILM**

Totally Eighties Sing-Along Dance Party Action Pack. @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 10:15pm.

SPACES

Jurassic World and Jurassic Park **Dino Double Feature.** @Blue Starlite Drive-In, 7:30pm.

★ **The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance (1962)** See p.57.

SUNDAY 11/29

Elf Movie Party (2003) @Alamo Lakeline, 4:05pm; Alamo Ritz, 4:15, 10. (See Thursday, 11/26.)

★ **The Godfather Double Feature** *D: Francis Ford Coppola.* (R) **Food & Film.** The first two films in Coppola's masterpiece screen, and you can bet this feast will not forget the cannoli. See www.draffhouse.com for full menu. @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 5pm.

Hanksgiving Celebration Master Pancake. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm. (See Saturday.)

Raising Arizona Quote-Along (1987) *D: Joel Coen; with Nicolas Cage, Holly Hunter, John Goodman.* (PG-13, 104 min.) **Action Pack.** @Alamo Lakeline, 7pm.

Roman Holiday (1953) *D: William Wyler; with Audrey Hepburn, Gregory Peck.* (NR, 119 min.) **NCM/Fathom: TCM Presents.** Hepburn won an Oscar and popular acclaim in this story of a princess who breaks free of the palace and has a romantic fling. Dalton Trumbo wrote the screenplay while blacklisted. @Tinseltown North, Arbor, CM Cedar Park, CM Southpark Meadows, CM Hill Country Galleria, Metropolitan, CM Stone Hill Town Center, 2, 7.

Space Jam (1996) **Alamo Kids Camp.** @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 9:50am. (See Thursday, 11/26.)

Starship Troopers (1997) *D: Paul Verhoeven; with Casper Van Dien, Denise Richards, Jake Busey.* (R, 125 min.) **Tough Guy Cinema.** In this spectacle, lethal insects from outer space do battle with student soldiers. (*) @Alamo South Lamar, 10pm.

MONDAY 11/30

★ **Elf (2003)** *D: Jon Favreau; with Will Ferrell, James Caan, Zoëy Deschanel.* (PG, 95 min.) As the titular elf, Ferrell embraces the comic absurd with arms outstretched. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 4:30, 9:45.

★ **Sebastiane (1976)** *D: Derek Jarman and Paul Humfress; with Barney James, Leonard Treviglio, Neil Kennedy, Richard Warwick.* (NR, 85 min.) **Homo Arigato!** This early film by Jarman emphasizes the physical torture experienced by the future saint when he was a Roman soldier who was banished for his Christian faith and resistant to a superior's homosexual advances. @Alamo Ritz, 7:15pm.

The Winter's Tale (2015) *D: Rob Ashford and Kenneth Branagh; with Branagh, Judi Dench.* (PG-13, 180 min.) **NCM/Fathom: Kenneth Branagh Theatre Company.** The Kenneth Branagh Theatre Company's production of William Shakespeare's play will be captured live from the world-famous Garrick Theatre in London. @Arbor, Tinseltown North, CM Southpark Meadows, 7:30pm.

SPACES

★ **The TV West** Austin Film Society: History of Television. Television westerns from the golden age. @AFS Screening Room, 8pm.

TUESDAY 12/1

Dead & Buried (1981) *D: Gary Sherman; with James Farentino, Melody Anderson, Jack Albertson, Robert Englund, Barry Corbin.* (R, 92 min.) **Terror Tuesday.** Murdered tourists come back to life. @Alamo Ritz, 10:05pm.

Elf Movie Party (2003) @Alamo Lakeline, 7:30pm. (See Thursday, 11/26.)

Elf (2003) *D: Jon Favreau.* (PG, 95 min.) **Pub Run and Screening.** Sold-out. (*) @Stateside at the Paramount, 7:45pm.

National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989) *D: Jeremiah S. Chechik; with Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo, Randy Quaid.* (PG-13, 97 min.) **Classics.** @Flix Brewhouse, 7pm.

Roman Holiday (1953) **NCM/Fathom: TCM Presents.** @Tinseltown North, Arbor, CM Cedar Park, CM Southpark Meadows, CM Hill Country Galleria, Metropolitan, CM Stone Hill Town Center, 2, 7. (See Sunday.)



Roman Holiday

SPACES

★ **Autism in Love (2015)** See p.58.

The Empire Strikes Back (1980) *D: Irvin Kershner; with Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford, Carrie Fisher, Billy Dee Williams.* (PG, 124 min.) **Austin Public Library: Jedi Genesis.** Free. @North Village Library, 6:30pm.

★ **Site Specific: Films by Vera Brunner-Sung** *D: Various.* **Experimental Response Cinema.** Vera Brunner-Sung's short experimental works, along with works by two filmmakers who have influenced and inspired her will screen in advance of the Texas premiere of her feature film *Bella Vista* at the Austin Film Society the following day. Brunner-Sung will introduce the program and host a post-screening Q&A. @MASS Gallery, 8pm.

WEDNESDAY 12/2

Brooklyn Irish-Italian Feast (2015) *D: John Crowley; with Saoirse Ronan, Emory Cohen, Domhnall Gleeson.* (PG-13, 111 min.) **Food & Film.** See www.draffhouse.com for menu. @Alamo South Lamar, 7pm.

★ **Elf (2003)** @Alamo Ritz, 3:50pm. (See Monday.)

Lulu (2015) *D: William Kentridge.* (NR, 270 min.) **Metropolitan Opera: Encore Presentation.** Soprano Marlis Petersen performs the title role; James Levine conducts. @Tinseltown North, Arbor, Metropolitan, CM Cedar Park, CM Southpark Meadows, CM Hill Country Galleria, 6:30pm.

Message From Space (1978) *D: Kinji Fukasaku; with Sonny Chiba, Jerry Ito, Vic Morrow.* (PG, 105 min., subtitled) **Weird Wednesday.** *Star Wars* takeoff by the popular Japanese director Kinji Fukasaku. @Alamo Ritz, 10pm.

National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989) *D: Jeremiah S. Chechik; with Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo, Randy Quaid.* (PG-13, 97 min.) **Big Screen Classics.** The third in the *Vacation* series is reliably amusing, with script by John Hughes and a fabulous cast. @Moviehouse, 7pm.

The Polar Express (2004) *D: Robert Zemeckis; with Tom Hanks.* (G, 100 min.) **Paramount Holiday Film Series.** Chris Van Allsburg's magical tale of the Christmas Eve re-education of a Santa-doubting adolescent gets the motion-capture treatment. (*) @Stateside at the Paramount, 7pm.

★ **Raising Arizona (1987)** *D: Joel Coen; with Nicolas Cage, Holly Hunter, John Goodman.* (PG-13, 92 min.) The Coen brothers sealed their place in film history as more than just a novelty act with this demented comedy about an infertile couple who steal a baby. The family values here are arresting. (*) @Alamo Lakeline, 7pm.

Roman Holiday (1953) **NCM/Fathom: TCM Presents.** @Tinseltown North, CM Hill Country Galleria, 2, 7. (See Sunday.)

Santa and the Ice Cream Bunny (1972) *D: Barry Mahon and R. Winer; with Jay Ripley.* (G, 96 min.) **NCM/Fathom: RiffTrax Live.** Santa's sleigh gets stuck in Florida sand, so he passes the time telling children the Thumbelina, at which point director Mahon's live-action 1970 movie of the fairy tale is inserted. Sounds like perfect RiffTrax material to mock. @Tinseltown North, CM Stone Hill Town Center, Arbor, CM Cedar Park, CM Southpark Meadows, Metropolitan, 7pm.

SPACES

★ **Bella Vista (2014)** *D: Vera Brunner-Sung.* (NR, 80 min.) **Austin Film Society and Experimental Response Cinema: Avant Cinema.** In this drama, the experiences of outsiders in Missoula, Mont., are seen through the eyes of an English instructor and her international students. Vera Brunner-Sung will be in attendance. @AFS Screening Room, 7:30pm.

The Wanted 18 (2014) *D: Amer Shomali and Paul Cowan; with Shomali, Allison Darcy, Rosann Nerenberg, Holly O'Brien.* (NR, 75 min.) **Interfaith Community for Palestinian Rights.** This documentary mixes animation with live-action reenactments to tell a story about a group of Palestinians who try to form a dairy co-op by purchasing a herd of Israeli cows. Amer Shomali will be in attendance to introduce the film and take part in a Q&A after the screening. @Asian American Resource Center, 6:30pm; free.

THURSDAY 12/3

Chasing Shadows (2015) The 66th annual winter sports film from Warren Miller Entertainment explores what it means to be inspired by exotic locations and snow-covered summits. @Paramount, 8pm.

Lord of the Rings Trilogy Hobbit Feast (PG-13, 640 min.) **Food and Film.** Nearly 12 hours, three movies, and seven courses. See www.draffhouse.com for menu. @Alamo Ritz, 11am.

Space Jam (1996) **Alamo Kids Camp.** @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 11am. (See Thursday, 11/26.)

★ **Ticket of No Return (1979)** See p.56.

★ **Western Religion (2015)** *D: James O'Brien; with Claude Duhamel, Holiday Hadley, James Anthony Cotton, Louie Sabatasso.* (NR, 105 min.) Austin premiere of revisionist Western. Red carpet begins at 6pm. @Alamo Slaughter Lane, 7pm.

SPACES

The Boxtrolls (2014) *D: Graham Annable and Anthony Stacchi; with the voices of Ben Kingsley, Isaac Hempstead-Wright, Elle Fanning.* (PG, 97 min.) **Austin Public Library: Family Movie Matinee.** Free. (*) @Cepeda Branch Library, 4pm.

National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989) *D: Jeremiah S. Chechik; with Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo, Randy Quaid.* (PG-13, 97 min.) **Austin Public Library: 'Tis the Season.** Free. @Terrazas Library, 1pm.

BULLOCK IMAX

SEE SHOWTIMES FOR SCHEDULE

“Dark Universe” (2013) *D: Carter Emmart.* (NR, 25 min.).

“Humpback Whales 3D” (2015) *D: Greg MacGillivray.* (NR, 49 min.).

“Living in the Age of Airplanes” (2015) *D: Brian J. Terwillige.* (NR, 47 min.).

The Hunger Games: Mockingjay – Part 2 (2015) *D: Francis Lawrence.* (PG-13, 137 min.).

An asterisk (*) before a title means that no passes or special admission discounts will be accepted. Changes may sometimes occur; viewers are encouraged to call theatres to confirm showtimes. For updated showtimes, **see austinchronicle.com/film**.

<p>BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) BARTON CREEK SQUARE MALL, MOPAC & HIGHWAY 360, 888/262-4386.</p> <p>*BROOKLYN (CC/DVS, DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 2:15, 5:20, 8:00, 10:45pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 11:45am, 2:25, 5:05, 7:45pm</p> <p>*BY THE SEA (CC/DVS, DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 3:05, 5:55; Mon-Wed (12/2), 12:10, 5:45</p> <p>*CREED (CC/DVS, DIGITAL): Fri-Sat, 10:10am, 1:20, 4:30, 7:45, 10:10pm; Sun, 10:10am, 1:20, 4:30, 7:45pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 11:30am, 2:30, 5:30, 8:30pm</p> <p>*THE GOOD DINOSAUR (3-D, CC/DVS): Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 2:30, 7:30, 9:50pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 3:10, 5:40, 8:20</p> <p>*THE GOOD DINOSAUR (CC/DVS, DIGITAL): Fri-Sat, noon, 1:05, 3:45, 5:10, 6:10, 8:45, 10:50; Sun, noon, 1:05, 3:45, 5:05, 6:10, 8:45, 10:50; Mon, 11:30am, 12:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00pm; Tue, 12:30, 7:00; Wed (12/2), 11:30am, 12:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00pm</p> <p>*THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY – PART 2 (CC/DVS, DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 11:45am, 1:50, 3:00, 4:55, 6:20, 8:10, 9:30pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 12:45, 1:45, 4:50, 7:00</p> <p>*THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY – PART 2 (DIGITAL, IMAX): Fri-Sun, 9:45am, 12:50, 4:00, 7:15, 10:30pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 11:45am, 2:50, 5:55, 9:00pm</p> <p>*LOVE THE COOPERS (CC/DVS, DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 11:15pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 4:15, 8:00</p> <p>THE MARTIAN (3-D, CC/DVS): Mon-Wed (12/2), 7:00pm</p> <p>*MY ALL AMERICAN (CC/DVS, DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 9:30am, 12:15, 9:00pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 3:00, 8:40</p> <p>*THE NIGHT BEFORE (CC/DVS, DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 11:01am, 1:50, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 1:15, 3:45, 6:15, 8:45</p> <p>*THE PEANUTS MOVIE (3-D, CC/DVS): Fri-Sun, 9:30am, 2:05, 7:00pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 2:20pm</p> <p>*THE PEANUTS MOVIE (CC/DVS, DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 11:45am, 4:35pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), noon, 4:40</p> <p>*SECRET IN THEIR EYES (CC/DVS, DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 11:45am, 2:25, 5:10, 8:05, 11:15pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 12:30, 3:10, 5:50, 8:35</p> <p>*SPECTRE (CC/DVS, DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 9:55am, 1:10, 4:45, 8:00, 9:30pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 1:00, 4:25, 7:45</p> <p>*SPOTLIGHT (CC/DVS, DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 9:30am, 12:30, 3:25, 6:30, 11:15pm; Mon, 12:30, 3:30, 6:30; Tue, 12:30, 3:30; Wed (12/2), 12:30, 3:30, 6:30</p> <p>*VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (CC/DVS, DIGITAL): Fri-Sat, 10:45am, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45pm; Sun, 10:45am, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 11:30am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30pm</p>	<p>CINEMARK HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA 14 12812 HILL COUNTRY BLVD., 800/326-3264.</p> <p>BROOKLYN (CINÉARTS DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 10:35am, 1:30, 4:35, 7:30, 10:25pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 1:30, 4:35, 7:30, 10:25</p> <p>CREED (DIGITAL): Fri-Sat, 12:15, 3:40, 7:10, 10:25; Sun, 12:15, 3:40, 7:10, 10:20; Mon-Wed (12/2), 12:15, 3:40, 7:10, 10:25</p> <p>THE GOOD DINOSAUR (3-D): Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 4:10, 7:55, 9:50pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 4:10, 7:55, 9:50</p> <p>THE GOOD DINOSAUR (DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 1:20, 2:20, 5:10, 7:00, 10:35pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 1:20, 2:20, 5:10, 7:00, 10:35</p> <p>THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY – PART 2 (DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 10:45am, 11:55, 2:15, 3:20, 4:30, 5:45, 6:45, 8:00, 9:15, 10:10pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 12:10, 2:15, 3:25, 5:45, 6:45, 7:40, 9:15, 10:10</p> <p>LOVE THE COOPERS (DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 10:50am, 1:35pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 1:35, 4:30</p> <p>OPERA: LULU: Wed (12/2), 6:30pm</p> <p>THE MARTIAN (DIGITAL): Fri-Wed (12/2), 9:55pm</p> <p>MY ALL AMERICAN (DIGITAL): Fri-Sat, 10:40am, 1:40, 4:40, 7:45, 10:35pm; Sun, 10:40am, 9:55pm; Mon, 1:40, 4:40, 7:45, 10:35; Tue-Wed (12/2), 9:55pm</p> <p>THE NIGHT BEFORE (DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 2:05, 4:50, 7:35, 10:20pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 2:05, 4:50, 7:35, 10:20</p> <p>THE PEANUTS MOVIE (DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:25, 7:15pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 1:50, 4:25, 7:15</p> <p>NCM/FATHOM: ROMAN HOLIDAY: Sun, 2:00, 7:00; Tue-Wed (12/2), 2:00, 7:00</p> <p>SECRET IN THEIR EYES (DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 11:05am, 2:00, 4:55, 7:50, 10:35pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 2:00, 4:55, 7:50, 10:35</p> <p>SPECTRE (DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 2:50, 6:30, 10:00pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 2:50, 6:30, 10:00</p> <p>SPOTLIGHT (CINÉARTS DIGITAL): Fri-Tue, 12:40, 3:50, 7:05, 10:20; Wed (12/2), 12:15, 3:15</p> <p>VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 1:25, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15pm; Mon-Wed (12/2), 1:25, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15</p>	<p>SECRET IN THEIR EYES (DIGITAL): Fri-Sat, 9:55am, 12:40, 4:05, 7:15, 10:00pm; Sun-Wed (12/2), 12:40, 4:05, 7:15, 10:00</p> <p>SPECTRE (DIGITAL): Fri-Wed (12/2), noon, 3:30, 7:00, 10:25</p> <p>SPOTLIGHT (CINÉARTS DIGITAL): Fri-Sat, 10:55am, 1:00, 4:20, 7:25, 10:30pm; Sun-Wed (12/2), 1:00, 4:20, 7:25, 10:30</p> <p>VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (DIGITAL): Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 2:00, 5:00, 8:15, 10:55pm; Sun, 2:00, 5:00, 8:15; Mon-Wed (12/2), 11:00am, 2:00, 5:00, 8:15pm</p>	<p>CINEMARK SOUTHPARK MEADOWS 9900 S. I-35, 800/326-3264.</p> <p>CREED (DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 7:20pm</p> <p>THE GOOD DINOSAUR (DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 6:45pm</p> <p>OPERA: LULU: Wed (12/2), 6:30pm</p> <p>NCM/FATHOM: ROMAN HOLIDAY: Sun, 2:00, 7:00; Tue, 2:00, 7:00</p> <p>RIFFRAX: SANTA AND THE ICE CREAM BUNNY: Wed (12/2), 7:00pm</p> <p>NCM/FATHOM: THE WINTER'S TALE: Mon, 7:30pm</p>	<p>CINEMARK STONE HILL TOWN CENTER 18820 HILLTOP COMMERCIAL DR. (SOUTHWEST CORNER OF HIGHWAYS 130 & 45), 512/251-0938.</p> <p>THE GOOD DINOSAUR (3-D): Fri-Sun, 10:15am, 12:45, 3:30, 9:30, 10:30pm</p> <p>THE GOOD DINOSAUR (DIGITAL): Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 2:00, 5:00, 6:30, 8:00pm</p> <p>NC</p>
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MUSIC

Agents of Change: Downtown Clubs vs. Downtown Hotels

Taking in my scruffy appearance as I booked a Friday stay, the man helping me hesitated a moment.

“You know these rooms are \$270 a night?” warned the front desk clerk at the **Westin hotel**, which opened in July just a block off the raging maelstrom at the heart of Austin’s so-called “live music capital.”

“Yes, and I want a room facing Sixth Street,” I replied.

“The rooms on that side get really loud at night,” he cautioned.

That’s the reason for breaking my own personal bank account – a stakeout. Westin representatives were reportedly lodging complaints against nearby live music venues, so an open records request was filed by the *Chronicle* for area sound complaints. The resulting report revealed that the city’s **Music & Entertainment Division** had recently performed a full-spectrum sound analysis at the Westin.

On Sept. 11, representatives from the four-person municipal office placed sound-monitoring devices inside a room on the hotel’s fourth floor and another directly outside, then took readings at 15-second intervals from 10pm until 2:30am. A graph comparing the interior and exterior readings show that the Westin’s walls fail to temper bass frequencies of music coming from neighboring clubs – even though those clubs were operating under the legal limit of 85 dB.

“This means the low frequencies are getting through the building because there is nearly no low frequency sound mitigating materials built into the building,” reads the report, authored by manager **Don Pitts**.

The documents reveal that on Sept. 12, the city performed a second sound analysis on the Westin’s 10th floor, which has been retrofitted with additional soundproofing. The data confirms that higher-pitched frequencies were dampened slightly, but there was almost no difference in the bass volume.

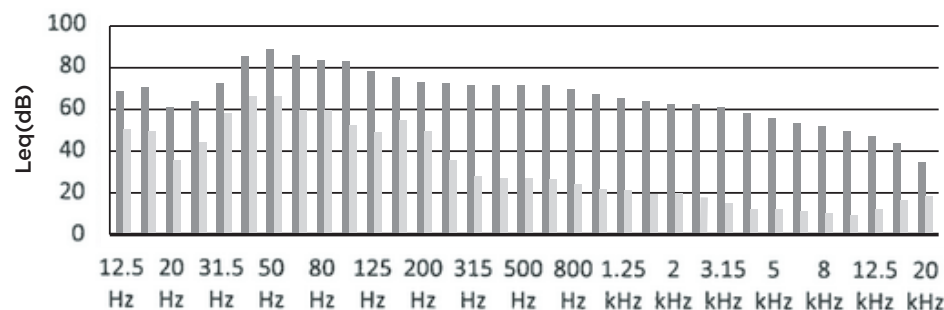
“This is probably due to the wrong material being used to try to mitigate low frequencies,” concludes the report, adding that the Westin achieved the lowest environmental-design rating and neglected to conduct a pre-build acoustical analysis.

Westin Downtown Austin General Manager **Kris Carlson** didn’t return a call for comment.

By the looks of the guitar pick collage hanging in my posh seventh-floor room, the Westin celebrates Austin music. I can tell why: By 8:30pm, the sound of the cover band on the rooftop of the **Blind Pig** is so loud and clear that I can play *Name That Tune*. Two hours later, their reverberations combine with another band at the **Nook** to resemble discordant prog-jazz.

After midnight, the bands stop, and thumping bass from DJs at the Nook, Blind Pig, and **Maggie Mae’s** rooftop proceed into a rave lullaby lasting until 2am. Any guest looking for a quiet night would have switched rooms by now. **Corie Lewelling**, general manager of the Nook, a roofless venue occupying the former **Black Cat** space, says the police have visited her bar multiple times responding to noise complaints from the Westin.

“We’ve lowered all of our sound below the legal limit and I’ve met with the GM of the Westin trying to work with them,” she says.



A graph by the Music & Entertainment Division measures sound readings taken at the Westin on Sept. 11, between 10pm and 2:30am: the dark gray lines represent the volume outside the room and the light gray represent the volume inside the room. As you can see, the bass frequencies (between 12.5 and 200 Hz) are going right through the walls.

A view of the skyline from Sixth Street



“We’re complying with the law, but the police are still being called.”

Westin managers have perhaps taken up freelance sound monitoring as well. Outside my window, I spot a microphone and decibel reader – visual confirmation that this is a major concern for them. Not all hotels new or old to Downtown have contentious relationships with their musical neighbors.

Jennifer Houlihan, director of industry advocates **Austin Music People (AMP)**, points out that the Rainey Street district’s new **Hotel Van Zandt** took sound readings during **South by Southwest** several years ago to chart the loudest potential environment, then erected their building using those specifications. Representatives for **Hotel Indigo**, **Holiday Inn**, and **Hyatt House**, all popping up in the **Red River Cultural District**, consulted with AMP about coexisting with local venues.

“Sound mitigation was discussed before they even broke ground, and they decided to get triple-laminated windows,” recounts Houlihan. “That means they won’t have to call 311 every five minutes saying the music is too loud.”

In every turn-it-down debate, there’s a source and a receiver. For sources, i.e., venues, the city enforces guidelines (volume limits, curfews) and provides resources like loans for sound mitigation. Clear standards for receivers, such as hotels cropping up in prominent music areas, don’t exist.

It’s an issue City Council attempted to address in 2011 with a building-standards resolution that stated, “Pre-construction implementation of sound mitigation techniques may be more cost-effective and efficient than post-construction fixes to resolve conflicts with urban noise.” City staff twisted it into a proposal requiring laminated windows on all commercial buildings over five stories, which failed.

“No one could figure out a way to address such a complex issue, so the result was an oversimplified proposal that didn’t address

anything,” says **Julie Fitch** of the **Downtown Austin Alliance**, a nonprofit partnership of local business owners. “It was a one-size-fits-all approach that didn’t take into account the surrounding area and how it might change over time. Nobody believed it was the right solution, so it ultimately didn’t pass at City Council.”

While Austin should be a national leader in music-related policy, San Francisco has beaten us to tackling this issue. In May, the Bay Area hub adopted protections for entertainment venues near new residential developments, authorizing their Entertainment Commission to hold hearings on proposed developments, then give recommendations to the planning department about potential sound issues. This ensures that no venue can be considered a noise nuisance if it’s in compliance with appropriate permits and laws.

A potential solution for the local issue of concert sounds seeping into residential dwellings is for the city to adopt the “agent of change” principle, meaning whichever party changes the circumstances of a situation is responsible for managing their impact.

“If you’re a music venue coming into a quiet neighborhood, it’s your responsibility to reach out to your neighbors, take care of your sound mitigation, and abide by the guidelines,” explains Houlihan, who’s been promoting the principle to city officials and hopes to see it included in CodeNEXT, the upcoming revision of Austin’s land development code. “If you’re a hotel building next to a music venue, it’s your responsibility to determine how you’ll insulate to keep the sound out.

“When someone comes into an existing neighborhood, they must recognize that it’s not a blank canvas,” she continues. “There’s an obligation to engage with that existing community.”

HALF NOTES

THE FOO FIGHTERS released an EP on Monday that was written and recorded during their **ACL Fest** layover last month. The five-song collection, named *Saint Cecilia* after the local hotel where it was cut with local engineer **Kevin Szymanski**, features impromptu backing vocals from **Ben Kweller**. Read **Dave Grohl’s** love letter to Austin at www.saintceciliaep.com.

THE LONG CENTER will turn its front porch into a concert venue next year. The **Skyline Theater**, a joint effort between theatre booking magnates **Nederlander** and local event producer **Paul Thornton**, will serve as a 7,000-capacity outdoor stage that hosts a handful of concerts annually.

FORMERLY RED 7, the new venue at 611 E. Seventh St. doesn’t open officially until next month, but it’s had recent test runs. Saturday hosted a cadre of loud locals including **Lung Letters** and **Carl Sagan’s Skate Shoes**, while Monday brought the hellfire of masked rockers **Midnight**. Owners haven’t revealed a name, but we’re getting promo emails about bands playing “**Barracuda**.”

JIMMIE VAUGHAN PERFORMS with the 385-piece **Longhorn Band** during halftime of UT’s Thanksgiving Day home game against Texas Tech. “It doesn’t get any more Texas than this,” the bluesman confirmed.

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The Residents

Twelve essential weekly hangs

From the Fabulous Thunderbirds burning down the Rome Inn on Monday nights in the Seventies to 2015 Austin Music Awards Hall of Fame inductee Margaret Wright holding court Thursdays & Fridays at the Skylark Lounge, Austin's sonic empire is built on residencies. Related by bedrock roots, the Continental Club (Toni Price, Dale Watson, Jon Dee Graham & James McMurtry), Saxon Pub (Bob Schneider, Johnny Nicholas), and Broken Spoke (come back Jesse Dayton) alone could keep the lights on. Save for a couple ringers here, these new local traditions – all but one of them *gratis* – began in the past five years. Catch 'em before they become lore.

– Raoul Hernandez

CHRISTINE ALBERT'S MYSTERY MONDAY

Location: El Mercado, 1302 S. First

Start date: Nov. 2012

Run time: Monday, 7:30-9:30pm

All ages? Y

Mystery Monday began in the wake of the late Sarah Elizabeth Campbell's Bummer Night, discontinued after Artz Rib House closed in 2012. What started as a weekly stage to grace for host Christine Albert and, initially, her close friend Campbell, has grown into an incomparable musician's hang featuring marquee names like Butch Hancock, Jimmie Dale Gilmore, and Eliza Gilkyson. Moving into the much larger and recently expanded back room with better sound has made it even more of an event. Albert lays it all on timing. "I asked just as they were wanting to build a music venue. It's been a great relationship."

– Jim Caligiuri



JOHN ANDERSON

JOHN ANDERSON



JOHN ANDERSON

LITTLE ELMORE REED

Location: King Bee Lounge, 1906 E. 12th

Timeline: TC's Lounge 2003-11, Legendary White Swan 2011-14, King Bee 2014-present

Run time: Monday, 10pm-1am

All ages? N

A decadelong fixture Monday nights on the Eastside, the Little Elmore Reed blues band launched in a BYO juke joint called TC's Lounge and drew rapturous crowds that spilled into the unpaved parking lot. The collection of Little Walter, Elmore James, and Jimmy Reed fiends relocated to the Legendary White Swan, which then became King Bee when it shuttered. Anchored by drummer Mark Hays and regularly featuring Willie Pipkin, J.P. Whitefield, Mike Schermer, Mike Keller, Greg Izor, and sometimes Emily Gimble (everyone from Guy Forsyth to the Monkees' Peter Tork has sat in), LER beats out deep, danceable Chicago-style blues with West Coast swing and New Orleans seasoning. \$5.

– Kevin Curtin



JANA BIRCHUM

CHURCH ON MONDAY

Location: Continental Club Gallery, 1313-A S. Congress

Start date: Oct. 2012

Run time: Monday, 8:30-10pm

All ages? N

Jazz, the live music capital's red-headed step genre, finally found a home in Austin. At least a living room. Downstairs, the Continental Club sustains cowboys, divas, and songwriters to shame any other scene. Upstairs in the intimate Gallery, similar dynasties in the making begin the weekly worship when native saxman Elias Haslanger leads his quintet back in time. Dr. James Polk tunes his Hammond B-3 to half a century ago while the bandleader, guitarist Tommy Howard, and rhythmic lock Daniel Durham and Scott Laningham hustle up Stanley Turrentine, Herbie Hancock, and Duke Ellington. A pair of four-star LPs prove the groove. "We have a loyal following at the Gallery," humbles Haslanger. "I hope the gig lasts forever."

– Raoul Hernandez



JOHN ANDERSON

AUSTIN MIC EXCHANGE

Location: Spider House Ballroom, 2906 Fruth

Start date: Sept. 2012

Run time: Tuesday, 11pm-1am

All ages? Absolutely

The multicultural face of Austin – its much-advertised progressiveness – lives through its eternally emergent hip-hop scene. Austin Mic Exchange, an open-format concept founded by rapper Adam Protextor and KOOP Radio's Leah Manners, gives locals of any "level of experience, medium of creation, age, race, or creed" an opportunity to go for what they know every Tuesday. According to Protextor, three elements combine for its lasting effect: a consistent format, stringent frequency, and an open invite philosophy. "Those elements conspire to create an environment that's more of a sandbox for creativity. The toys change every week, but the sandbox never does."

– Kahron Spearman



JOHN ANDERSON

BOB HOFFNAR'S MOOD ILLUSION

Location: Stay Gold, 1910 E. Cesar Chavez

Start date: Feb. 2015

Run time: Wednesday, 9pm-12mid

All ages? N

In a city stacked with pedal steel players, NYC transplant Bob Hoffnar has been employed by Norah Jones, Ryan Adams, and Iggy Pop. When popular Eastside vibe room Stay Gold opened earlier this year, Hoffnar's lounge band Mood Illusion immediately emerged as its flagship act on Wednesdays. Typically featuring drummer Stephen Bidwell, bassist Aaron Allen, and Michael Patrick St. Clair on horns and keys, Hoffnar's crew churns out instrumental variations on traditionals, pop staples (ABBA, Bacharach, Carpenters), and moody originals. "We feel pretty free at Stay Gold," says the bandleader. "The audience can talk or watch, and we can be goofy or get hardcore avant-garde. Or just dig some Neil Young covers."

– Kevin Curtin

CONTINUED ON P.66

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THE RESIDENTS CONTINUED FROM P.64**WARREN HOOD'S
ALL GOOD IN THE HOOD****Location:** ABGB, 1305 W. Oltorf**Start date:** July 2015**Run time:** Wednesday, 6:30-8:30pm**All ages?** Y

"I was born and raised on Austin residencies," attests Warren Hood. "When I was 5, my dad started a residency at Threadgill's with Jimmie Dale Gilmore, so every Wednesday for about 15 years – before I was even playing music – I'd go to my dad's gig." The fiddler-songwriter's "All Good in the Hood Happy Hour" at ABGB is the South Austin beerhall's first weekly, and continuation of a family tradition begun by his late father, Champ Hood. Two-steppers, pints, and pizzas fuel a broad sweep of Americana guesting the likes of Emily Gimble. "It's bigger than the music, it's bigger than the venue," posits Hood. "It's something that people talk about long after it's gone."

– Doug Freeman



JANA BIRCHUM

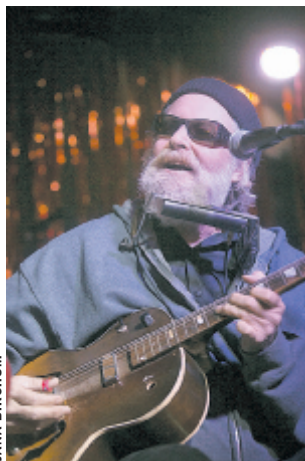


JOHN ANDERSON

MRS. GLASS**Location:** Blackheart, 86 Rainey**Start date:** Aug. 2012**Run time:** Thursday, 10pm-2am**All ages?** N

The Blackheart is a whiskey bar, and Mrs. Glass is a whiskey band. "They pair well together," confirms Jeremy Murray, owner of the Rainey Street venue that's hosted this neo-delta blues trio weekly for three years. "We definitely pour out some bottles on Thursday nights." The group's namesake frontman, a gutsy slide guitarist with a smoky bullfrog moan who relocated from New Orleans after the levee broke, boasts jaw-dropping talent and a 1,000-year soul. "He's got this unique confidence that's laid-back, yet deadly serious," says Murray. Committed? Last year, Murray pressed a vinyl of Mrs. Glass live at the Blackheart to sell from behind the bar.

– Kevin Curtin



JANA BIRCHUM

PAUL OSCHER**Location:** C-Boy's Heart & Soul, 2008 S. Congress**Start date:** May 2014**Run time:** Thursday, 6:30-9:30pm**All ages?** N

In 1967, Brooklyn-born Paul Oscher joined Muddy Waters' band, following in the footsteps of harp legends Little Walter and James Cotton (who also relocated locally). He was 17, and Waters' first Caucasian sideman. Forty-seven years later, the multi-instrumentalist took over Thursdays at Continental Club owner Steve Wertheimer's other South Congress juke joint, working with some of the area's best bluesmen when not on the road. "I'm in the deep blues sound," says Oscher. "That's what I like, that's what I play, and that's what I like listening to."

– Tim Stegall



JANA BIRCHUM

**DENNY
FREEMAN****Location:** Saxon Pub, 1320 S. Lamar**Start date:** 2013**Run time:** Friday, 6-8pm**All ages?** N

Blazing alongside Stevie Ray Vaughan in the Cobras, then five years on the road with Bob Dylan, Denny Freeman now performs his guitar magic in front of smaller yet appreciative crowds. Along with former Cobras drummer Rodney Craig and two Doug Sahm compadres, guitarist John Reed and bassist Speedy Sparks, he gets the weekend started on the good foot. "One day the Saxon needed a band on a Saturday afternoon," recalls Freeman. "At the same time, Fridays opened up. It's a bunch of old guys playing covers. They gave us a month. Two-and-a-half years later, we're still doing it."

– Jim Caligiuri



JOHN ANDERSON

CHICKEN SHIT BINGO**Location:** Little Longhorn Saloon, 5434 Burnet Rd.**Start date:** 2000**Run time:** Sunday, 4-8pm**All ages?** Y

Sunday afternoons at the Little Longhorn regularly feature honky-tonk heavyweights the Derailers, Alvin Crow, and venue owner Dale Watson, but a well-fed fowl remains the biggest draw. Hatched 15 years ago by Watson with former owners Ginny and Don Kalmbach, Chicken Shit Bingo scored a bull's-eye on the Austin atmosphere meter every time the bird whites out another bingo square. One time Billy Joe Shaver showed up with a documentary crew. "Billy got in line like everybody else and bought a ticket, won, dropped the winnings in the tip jar, sang a song with us, then left," recalls Watson.

– Greg Beets



JANA BIRCHUM

CONJUNTO LOS PINKYS**Location:** White Horse, 500 Comal**Start date:** Feb. 2012**Run time:** Sunday, 5-8pm**All ages?** N

Which came first in Texas, fiddle or accordion? Chenco Flores, 85, brandished his first squeeze on Sixth Street in 1947. He's eased on the keys, but conjunto elder Isidro Samilpa, 80, still sings and slings the button box with genuine teen ardor. "It's been a wonderful scene," writes bajo quinto-playing bandleader Bradley Jay Williams.

"We're honored to keep the tradition of the 'tardeada' alive in the neighborhood." This summer, the first *familia* of accordions billed both of its first sons, Flaco and Santiago, on a rare weekend gig locally. Los Pinkys – further dance-induced by Javier Cruz (bass), Clemencia Zapata (drums), and Vicente Alonzo (bajo quinto) – give as good every Sunday.

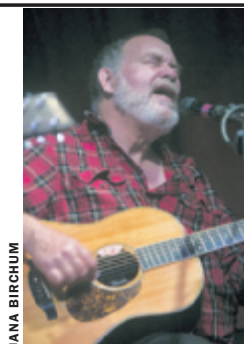
– Raoul Hernandez

THE PURGATORY PLAYERS**Location:** Strange Brew, 5326 Manchaca Rd.**Start date:** July 2012**Run time:** Sunday, 11am-1pm**All ages?** Y

Every Sunday morning for the last three years, Scrappy Jud Newcomb, my father Jon Dee Graham, Jeff Plankenhorn, Jon Greene, Seela Misra, and special guests from Carolyn Wonderland to Ruthie Foster and Matt the Electrician take the stage at Strange Brew Lounge Side to sing gospel songs of hope and inspiration.

Plankenhorn overheard a barista describe it best as "non-denominational spiritual music." Donations go to the Capital Area Food Bank, whose buying power can turn each \$1 into \$6 worth of food. The band takes \$20 for gas. The room's packed, coffee and mimosas flow, and the crowd bursts into a rag-tag choir.

– William Harries Graham



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WATERLOO



Dale Watson's Thanksgiving

CONTINENTAL CLUB, THURSDAY 26
Whitney Rose opens at 10pm

"We've been doing this about 10 years now," says the last great Texas honky-tonk singer, Dale Watson, over the phone after receiving a shot for a sore throat at a local clinic one sunny Friday afternoon. "We've been doing the Christmas show for 15 years, but I got to thinking: 'Well, there's nothing really to do on Thanksgiving night.' You've had dinner, you've visited with the family, the kids. Most people don't have to be at work the next morning.

"Why not give 'em something to do?" Just don't expect seasonal standards roasting on an open fire.

"I save the Christmas songs for Christmas," says Watson. "I'm not Wal-Mart. I don't start celebrating Christmas until Christmas!"

Expect what Dale Watson does best – hard country. Old-school. Scuff marks all over a dance floor. And the two-decades-and-count-

ing local balks at the idea of his being the last of an extinct breed.



"I went for years thinking I was some sort of dinosaur, making this music," admits Watson. "Since we started the Ameripolitan Awards, it's now apparent there's hundreds of artists – all over the world – doing this music. We're proving this music is still alive."

What if a standard-bearer of pure country such as he were to write a honky-tonk Thanksgiving song?

"Oh, that's easy! Thankful for this Lone Star [beer], thankful for this barstool, thankful for this bar, thankful for the jukebox, thankful for the pretty girls that make the night go easier. There's a lot to be thankful for [laughs]."

Instead of turkey, you serve Wild Turkey. "That's a great idea! I think that'll be a great song! I've gotta write this now!"

– Tim Stegall

GHOST WOLVES' SPANK\$GIVING 2 Mohawk inside, Friday 27

Wake your ass up from that turkey stuffing hangover with a hard-handed rock & roll spanking. Austin guitar-n-drums duo Ghost Wolves, just home from a monthlong Euro tour, host their second annual Spank\$giving spectacular. Expect the crunch blues couple to preview their second LP of swamp noir anthems, *Texas Platinum*. They'll play the turkey, but don't skip the sides: Elijah Ford & the Bloom, the lovable pop/rock sojourn of Ryan Bingham's former bassist, and

Midnight Stroll guitarist Jonas Wilson, who demonstrates songwriter chops on his new solo LP. – Kevin Curtin

REVEREND HORTON HEAT Mohawk outside, Friday 27

Stretching your belly with Thanksgiving makes room for this psychobilly feast. "Livin' on the Edge (of Houston)," according to Gibby Haynes-produced catalog land speed record *The Full-Custom Gospel Sounds of the Reverend Horton Heat*, guitar-mangler Jim Heath juiced Fifties rock into Nineties nitroglycerin. Here guesting

sax sideman Johnny Reno (Stevie Ray Vaughan, Chris Isaak, Robert Rodriguez) and supported by SoCal garage door blow-offs the Bellrays – led by front spitfire Lisa Kekaula – plus L.A. psych thugs the Lords of Altamont, a post-holiday mosh feels in order. – Raoul Hernandez

VAN WILKS CD RELEASE Threadgill's World Headquarters, Saturday 28

What's the ZZ Top album between *Afterburner* and *Recycler*? Van Wilks' *21st Century Blues*! Having once

shared management, both Lone Star guitar vehicles previously made up half the state's Mt. Rushmore of axe-grinders with Stevie Ray Vaughan and Eric Johnson. Wilks' new LP opener "Strange Girl" could hook up with the Top's "Rough Boy," then Billy F. Gibbons himself revs up the *Eliminator* coupe for "Drive-by Lover." The title cut burns like that same 1933 hot-rod Ford.

– Raoul Hernandez

CROOKS ABGB, Saturday 28

News of Crooks disbanding comes at a disappointing juncture. The local country sextet finally found its Tex-Mex groove on this summer's stellar sophomore effort, *Wildfire*, fueled by Josh Mazour's barroom twang and Anthony Ortiz Jr.'s accordion. Catch as many of the band's high-octane shows as possible before Crooks' final blow-out in February, with ABGB kicking off the farewell run on the first holiday weekend.

– Doug Freeman

WILD CHILD Stubb's, Saturday 28

Indie sweethearts Wild Child make you want to fall in love even though the local sextet delineates falling out of it. Touring North America in support of the third in a series of bittersweet LPs, *Fools*, frontpair Kelsey Wilson and Alexander Beggins possess a lovable onstage chemistry. His baritone ukelele, her fiddle, plus assorted strings and brass festivaled at Firefly and ACL Fest, but Stubb's outdoors is one space they've been aching to headline. After waiting five years, it's finally, and deservedly, theirs. – María Núñez

BOB SCHNEIDER & HIS MOONLIGHT ORCHESTRA Bass Concert Hall, Saturday 28

"Don't hate me because I'm beautiful." So said a supermodel once, but don't let two decades of runaway cottage industry success turn you into a Bob Schneider hata. Dissenters cite 2015's 3-EP *King Kong Suite*, with the Chewbacca-sized Triple AAA hook of "Han Solo" from *Vol. II* matched only by the concluding disc's closer "The Unknown," a would-be Jamaica smash from 1972. This 'tis-the-season extravaganza leans on the Tosca Strings and Schneider's Harrison Ford-sized charisma.

– Raoul Hernandez

BIG K.R.I.T. Emo's, Saturday 28

Slick Southern slab rapper Big K.R.I.T. returns to the capital city, offering a cosmic thump that threatens to lift the entire Riverside and Burton block. Probably our most prolific major-label wordsmith, the "M I Crooked Letter" MC released yet another mixtape, the DJ Drama-assisted *It's Better This Way*, more chapter and verses of deep-fried Bible Belt bass. Like-minded Midwestern

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vocalist BJ the Chicago Kid accompanies K.R.I.T. in the subwoofer soiree, matching his indomitable swag and soulful tuning. – Kahron Spearman

TESSERACT Empire Control Room, Tuesday 1

Great Britain's Tesseract remains at the forefront of an enigmatic underground scene called djent. Polyrhythmic prog, jazz chords, emo melodies, and low-tuned axes betray influences beyond Rush and Dream Theater to Messhuggah, though Tesseract isn't that heavy. Latest LP *Polaris* balances technical accomplishment and accessibility. Like minds the Contortionist, Erra, Skyharbor – featuring Tesseract vocalist Dan Tompkins – and Ansible blow minds first.

– Michael Toland

FOGG, LAWMAN, SWEAT LODGE Hotel Vegas, Thursday 3

The second annual Good Vibrations festival proves Austin doesn't have a lock on Lone Star psych. Ft. Worth's Fogg puts one foot in dream and the other in nightmare, as comfortable with acoustic folk as electric grunge. June debut *High Testament* hits every point the band has to make. A plethora of locals join the misty journey, including Ditch Witch spinoff Lawman, psych metal stalwart Sweat Lodge, noise punks Carl Sagan's Skate Shoes, punk rockers White Dog, and electronic collective LSDJ's.

– Michael Toland

DAVID BROMBERG One World Theatre, Thursday 3

The godfather of Americana mesmerized the One World last year with a solo performance – just him, an acoustic guitar, and a satchel full of country, folk, and blues peppered with Bromberg's well-worn stories and droll humor. He returns with his own band of gypsies, a quartet including National Flatpicking Guitar Champion Mark Cosgrove. Longtime fans recognize that a Bromberg band means an even wider range of material, including Celtic, bluegrass, traditional fiddle tunes, and maybe some electric blues performed with maximum taste and musicianship.

– Jim Caligiuri

BROWN SABBATH Bass Concert Hall, Thursday 3

When Brownout conceived of a Black Sabbath cover band in the back of a touring van, they never imagined their doom metal-meets-Latin funk would land in Bass Concert Hall. The unlikely success of *Brownout Presents Brown Sabbath* made it so. The instrumental octet is joined onstage by dynamic frontman Alex Marrero in the role of Ozzy Osbourne, who recently apologized for urinating near the Alamo 33 years ago. "We weren't sure it was going to work to take on Black Sabbath," guitarist Adrian Quesada told us last year. "But the minute we played 'The Wizard,' we knew it was special."

– Thomas Fawcett

SOUNDCHECK

BY **RAOUL HERNANDEZ**

HAYES CARLL, WHITNEY ROSE

Grueue Hall, Friday 27
American (troubadour) and Americana (torch singer).

JOE BONAMASSA

ACL Live at the Moody Theater, Friday 27 & Saturday 28
Former blues prodigy, 38, preps 12th studio shred.

A BRAUN FAMILY THANKSGIVING

Paramount Theatre, Saturday 28
Reckless Kelly and Micky & the Motorcars rep Austin's first family of roots rock.

BAND OF HEATHENS, TRISHAS

Scout Inn, Saturday 28
Austin's onetime Band meets ATX's Dixie Chicks.

THE STAPLETONES

Threadgill's World Headquarters, Sunday 29
Blues brothers the Petersons as fronted by a gospel-rocking would-be Mavis Staples, 11am.

SALLY CREWE, RITE FLYERS

Hole in the Wall, Sunday 29
Britpop local's first show in 15 months (4pm matinée) pulls out all the stops with band add-ons, plus free hot dogs and \$2 PBRs.

SOUL OF A MUSICIAN SERIES

Iron Cactus (10001 Stone Lake Blvd.), Sunday 29
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church celebrates 100th entry of its *Storytellers*-like showcase with indie pixie Erin Ivey. 6:30pm.

SUZANNA CHOFFEL

Geraldine's, Monday 30
Rainey Street district's Hotel Van Zandt serves up new mom in the dining room.

COPELAND, EISLEY

Mohawk, Wednesday 2
Devout 21st century pop pairing.

CAPYAC EP RELEASE

Parish, Thursday 3
"Technicolor delirium" from local electro popsters.

FUCK THE FACTS

Dirty Dog Bar, Thursday 3
Canadian grindcore quintet espouses *Desire Will Rot*.

IN-STORES:

SATURDAY: Broken Gold, End of an Ear, 6pm

TUESDAY: Ray Wylie Hubbard booksigning, Waterloo Records, 5pm

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MIKE & THE MOONPIES 12AM
RUBY JANE 10PM

• SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28 •
 MATINEE 3:30PM **REDD VOLKAERT**
THE BELLFURIES 12AM
THE BLUEBONNETS 10PM

• SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29 •
PLANET CASPER MATINEE 3:30PM
 WITH **GLENN FUKUNAGA, DONY WYNN & BUKKA ALLEN**
 12:30AM **AMANDA CEVALLOS**
HEYBALE 9:45PM
 WITH **REDD & EARL & DALLAS**
WAGONEERS 7:30PM

• MONDAY, NOV. 30 •
THE PETERSON BROTHERS H.H. 6:30PM
DALE WATSON & HIS LONE STARS 10PM

• TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1 •
TONI PRICE H.H. 7PM
TEXAS NEVER SLEEPS 12AM
UNCLE LUCIUS 10PM

• WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2 •
BEE CAVES H.H. 6:30PM
JAMES McMURTRY 12AM
JON DEE GRAHAM 10:30PM
 9:30PM **THE PAINTED REDSTARTS**

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• THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3 •
 H.H. 6:30PM **WHITNEY ROSE**
 12AM **MIKE STINSON**
 10PM **THOMAS CSORBA**

• FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4 •
 H.H. 6:30PM **THE BLUES SPECIALISTS**
VICKY TAFOYA'S BIG BEAT 12AM
PRINCE TRIBUTE 10PM

• SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5 •
 MATINEE 3:30PM **REDD VOLKAERT**
 7PM **HOT CLUB OF COWTOWN**
 10PM **POGUETRY**
 WITH **LOST BAYOU RAMBLERS & SPIDER TRACY**

IN THE GALLERY ★ DOORS @ 8PM

• WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25 •
 10:30PM **AJ VALLEJO'S SOUTHTOWN**
 8:30PM **MATT HUBBARD TRIO**
 • THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26 • DOORS @ 9PM •
Happy Thanksgiving!
KALU JAMES 10PM

• FRIDAY & SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27 & 28 •
 10:30PM **THE LOST COUNTS**
 FRI. 8:30PM **CONTINENTAL GRAFFITI**
 SAT. 8:30PM **HILARY YORK**

• SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29 •
 10:30PM **DAVE BILLER TRIO** WITH **MAC MCINTOSH**
 8:30PM **JON DEE GRAHAM'S LO JINX ORCHESTRA**

• MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30 •
 10:30PM **MARSHALL HOOD**
 8:30PM **CHURCH ON MONDAY**
 WITH **ELIAS HASLANGER FEAT. DR. JAMES POLK**

• TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1 •
 10:30PM **EPHRAIM OWENS EXPERIENCE**
 8:30PM **JAMES McMURTRY**

• WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2 •
 10:30PM **AJ VALLEJO'S SOUTHTOWN**
 8:30PM **MATT HUBBARD TRIO**

VOTED BEST NEW CLUB!
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HEART & SOUL
Happy Hour Specials!
 MON: 5PM-2AM • TUE-FRI: 5-7PM • SAT: 3-7PM

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25
SNIZZ & FRIENDS 10PM
RAY ARTEAGA 6:30PM

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26
 DOORS OPEN AT 9PM
Happy Thanksgiving!
THE SOUL SUPPORTERS 10PM

FRIDAY, NOV 27
 10PM **SOULMAN**
SAM EVANS
 Friday 6:30PM **JITTERBUG VIPERS**

SATURDAY, NOV 28
MISS LAVELLE WHITE 10PM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29
PSYCHEDELIC SOUL SUNDAYS
 With **HILARY YORK** 10PM
IMPERIAL STARLIGHTERS 7PM

MONDAY, NOV 30
JONESIN' 10:30PM
 With **GEORGIA BRAMHALL**
PRESTO CHANGO 9PM
KEVIN GALLOWAY 6PM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1
DJ SUPER KING SOUL SOUND 10PM
The Original
8 1/2 SOUVENIRS! 7PM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2
SNIZZ & FRIENDS 10PM
REY ARTEAGA 6:30PM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3
JAI MALANO 10PM
PAUL OSCHER 6:30PM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4
TWO HOOTS & A HOLLER 12AM
DON LEADY & HIS ROCKIN' REVUE 10PM
JITTERBUG VIPERS 6:30PM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5
ROSIE FLORES 11:30PM
PATRICIA VONNE
BIRTHDAY BASH! 10PM

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WEDNESDAY 11/25
BIRDLIEG & THE TEXAS TIGHTFIT BLUES BAND
 THURSDAY 11/26
CHARLIE MURPHY BAND CLUB 10PM
DJ KOMA ON THE ROOFTOP

Longhorns Football
 THURSDAY, NOV. 26
TEXAS VS. **TEXAS TECH**
 CATCH ALL THE ACTION AT MAGGIE MAE'S - 6:30PM
Drink Specials & Free Rudy's BBQ!
AM 1300 THE ZONE POST GAME SHOW
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 GIBSON GUITAR WRAPPED WITH R. HURST
 ARTWORK GIVEAWAY DURING THE BROADCAST
 MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN

FRIDAY 11/27
MICHAEL MILLIGAN & TEXIANA BLUEZ CLUB 10PM
DJ KENN ON THE ROOFTOP

SATURDAY 11/28
THE ARMADILLO ACTION FIGURES CLUB 10PM
DJ KENN ON THE ROOFTOP

SUNDAY 11/29
ALAN HAYNES
 MONDAY 11/30
MONDAY NIGHT BLUES JAM WITH
MICHAEL MILLIGAN & TEXIANA BLUEZ

TUESDAY 12/1
ADAM RODGERS
 WEDNESDAY 12/2
BIRDLIEG & THE TEXAS TIGHTFIT BLUES BAND

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CHEER UP CHARLIES, 900 Red River, 512/431-2133
CHEZ ZEE, 5406 Balcones, 512/454-2666
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UPCOMING EVENTS

DEC 10: RAW ART SHOW
DEC 31: NYE BASH
W/ LC ROCKS AND DJ KAY CALI

FREE WEEK:
FRIDAY: JAN 8
BEN BAXTER, SHOTGUN CIVICS, &
STEADY LEGEND

SATURDAY: JAN 9TH
WONDER BITCH, & CHASCA
MORE SHOWS ANNOUNCED SOON

THE SAHARA LOUNGE

THU 28: CLOSED! HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!
FRI 21: NIGEL BOBBY 7:30PM
WINTER BOLLYWOOD FIESTA, WITH DJ VISH 9PM
CRESCENT SOUL REVUE 10:30PM
SAT 28: CORNERSTONE REGGAE 8:30PM
CINCO DOCE 10PM ZOUMOUNTCHI 12AM
SUN 29: INVISIBLE SISTER 9PM WESTERN HOMES 10:30PM
MON 30: DATRI BEAN 8PM JONATHAN DOYLE SWINGTET 9:30PM
WED 2: HUMP DAY SKA NIGHT: KABOMBA 9PM
THU 3: DEMI DOG PRESENTS: BIG STATE 8PM
SARAH Y HERMANOS (S.A.) 9:30PM
EVAN CHARLES (SOLO) 10:30PM
LECHE, & DJ'S WOW TOTALLY SONGS! 11:30PM

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NOVEMBER 28: BIG K.R.I.T.
W/ BJ THE CHICAGO KID

DECEMBER 18: GALACTIC
W/ THE SUFFERS

DECEMBER 26: TOADIES

DECEMBER 31: NEW YEAR'S EVE:
THIEVERY CORPORATION
W/ HARD PROOF

JANUARY 23: MORGAN PAGE
& BORGEIOUS
W/ DELORA

FEBRUARY 4: THE DEVIL
MAKES THREE
W/ Parker Millsap

FEBRUARY 7: UNKNOWN MORTAL
ORCHESTRA
W/ LOWER DENS

FEBRUARY 19: WARREN HAYNES AND
THE ASHES & DUST BAND

FEBRUARY 20: HAPPY CAMPER TOUR:
HOODIE ALLEN
W/ SUPERDUPERKYLE AND BLACK BEAR

FEBRUARY 25: MUTEMATH

APRIL 12: SAVAGES

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FOOD ★ MUSIC

SOUTH ON RIVERSIDE

WED, 11/25: **UNCLE LUCIUS**
w/MAYEUX & BROUSSARD 7pm
Annual Thanksgiving-Eve Show!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28: **VAN WILKS**
w/THE CUCKOOS 8pm

Image of Van Wilks playing guitar

Fire Pit will be on!
Supporting his great new record
"21st Century Blues"

Image of Van Wilks album cover

Tickets at threadgills.frontgatetickets.com

SUNDAY, NOV. 29: **THE STAPLETONES** 11am

Image of The Stapletones

THREADGILL'S ON RIVERSIDE

SUNDAY, NOV. 29: **PINE ISLAND STATION** 11am

Image of Pine Island Station

THREADGILL'S NORTH LAMAR

Open Thanksgiving
10:30am—10pm

SOUTH: 301 W Riverside Dr (512) 472-9304
NORTH: 6416 N Lamar Blvd (512) 451-5440

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WALLER CREEK AMPHITHEATER

STUBB'S

IN THE CLUB

WED NOV 25 DOORS 9:30PM
REED TURNER
SAT NOV 28 DOORS 10PM
DANIEL EYES & THE VIBES
THU DEC 3 DOORS 8PM
BEN MILLBURN
WITH WHALERS
FRI DEC 4 DOORS 9PM
THE DAMN QUAILS
WITH ALI HOLDER
SAT DEC 5 DOORS 9PM
TAHOMA'S SINGLE RELEASE SHOW
WITH CHARLIE KING AND ANTHONY DA COSTA
THU DEC 10 DOORS 8PM
BLUE WATER HIGHWAY
WITH ZAC WILKERSON
FRI DEC 11 DOORS 9PM
HILL COUNTRY CONSERVANCY PRESENTS:
TAMECA JONES
WITH DJ KAY CALI
SAT DEC 12 DOORS 9PM
THE WIND & THE WAVE
WITH BEE CAVES
SUN DEC 13 DOORS 8PM
JUNIOR BROWN
THU DEC 17 DOORS 8PM
FULL SERVICE'S
3RD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SHOW WITH
BRUCE III & THE REVENGE
FRI DEC 18 DOORS 9PM
WHITE LABEL ANALOG
WITH GIRLING (CD RELEASE) AND P.T. BANKS
SAT DEC 19 DOORS 9PM
CAS HALEY
WITH COLLIN HAUSER
THU DEC 31 DOORS 9PM
THE NIGHTOWLS
THU JAN 14 DOORS 8PM
EMILY WOLFE

SAT NOV 28: **WILD CHILD**
Image of Wild Child band
WITH THE DEER

FRI JAN 22: **CITY AND COLOUR**
Image of City and Colour band
WITH GREYHOUNDS

SAT JAN 23: **RAILROAD EARTH**
WINTER 2016
Image of Railroad Earth band

SAT FEB 20: **O.A.R.**
Image of O.A.R. band

SAT FEB 27: **DROPKICK MURPHYS**
20th YEAR ANNIVERSARY TOUR
WITH TIGER ARMY AND DARKBUSTER
ON SALE FRI NOV 27 @10AM

THU MAR 31: **THEY MIGHT BE GIANTS**
AGES 14+
Image of They Might Be Giants band

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6³⁰-9 PM*

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11/27 **CIENFUEGOS**
cuban son

11/28 **VIC'S HOT SIX**
traditional hot jazz

11/29 **GAMELAN LIPI AWAN**
texas state university's indonesian ensemble
*NOON - 2 PM

westgate
4477 S. LAMAR

11/27 **DANIELLE REICH**
vocal jazz

11/28 **GRUPO MASSA**
brazilian

11/29 **McMERCY FAMILY BAND**
americana/gospel
*NOON - 3 PM

REALLY INTO FOOD



north lamar
cooking school

12/6
11 AM **HORS D'OEUVRES**
hands-on; classics with a twist

12/8
6³⁰ PM **HAHN HOLIDAY WINES**
dinner w/ dyon foster

12/10
6³⁰ PM **HAUS ALPENZ**
aperitifs & appetizers

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CLUB LISTINGS

A ALL AGES VENUE R ROADSHOW ★ RECOMMENDED

WEDNESDAY 11/25

290 WEST BAR & GRILL Open Mic (8:45)

AUSTIN BEER GARDEN BREWING CO. Warren Hood (6:30), Eric Hisaw (9:00)

BAT BAR Gem Martinez Duo (5:30), Jo Hell Band (9:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB C.K. Bailey (9:30)

BEERLAND Yeast by Sweet Beast w/ Grandpa Lies Again, MC Terroristic, Dixie Chixx Triple XXX, Injector Apparatus, Yogi Chiron (9:00)

THE BLACKHEART Jonas Wilson, Beth Lee & the Breakups (9:00), Jordan Young (11:00)

BRASS HOUSE Brass House Jam

BROKEN SPOKE TJ Bonta (6:00), Dance Lessons (8:00), Midland (9:00)

C-BOY'S HEART & SOUL Rey Arteaga (6:30), Trube, Farrell & Snizz (10:00)

THE CAPITAL GRILLE James Polk Trio (6:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Jack Geiser's Jam Session (7:00), Ted Roddy (9:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle (9:00)

CHEER UP CHARLIES Queer Mountain

CONTINENTAL CLUB Bee Caves (6:30), Painted Redstarts, Jon Dee Graham (9:30), James McMurtry (12mid)

CONTINENTAL CLUB GALLERY Matt Hubbard Trio (8:30); AJ Vallejo's SouthTown (10:30)

CYPRESS CREEK CAFE Longtooth (9:00)

DANCE ACROSS TEXAS La Mafia (7:00)

DIRTY DOG BAR Havok, Black Fest, Extinction A.D., Cerebral Desecration, Mastema, Nahaya (7:00) ★

DIZZY ROOSTER Chris Ray (5:00), The Goodz (9:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Frank & the Honky-Tonk Doctors

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE James Speer (7:00) ★

EDGE OF TOWN SALOON & GRILL Open Mic w/ Glenn Collins

EL MERCADO Cornell Hurd (6:00) ★

ELEPHANT ROOM Collin Shook

Quartet (9:30)

EMPIRE CONTROL ROOM Chop Shop w/ Andrew Luce & Alexander Lewis (10:00) ★

EVANGELINE CAFE Rick McRae (7:00) ★

FIREHOUSE LOUNGE Showcase & Open Mic (8:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Reggae Church w/ the Mau Mau Chaplains (9:00)

FOUR SEASONS HOTEL Brett Barrow (8:00)

FRIENDS The Southsiders (4:00); Swamp Sauce, David Winsman (8:00)

THE GATSBY Tarik Hassan Trio (8:00)

GERALDINE'S Sister Edie (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Sam Outlaw, Wade Bowen (8:00) ★

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Hal Ketchum, Mike Stinson (6:00) ★, KDRP Live w/ (6:00)

HEB CAFE MUELLER Woody Russell (6:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL The Parade Schedule, Ethan Azarian (7:00), Nic Armstrong (9:30)

HOTEL VEGAS Holly Go Lightly, Christy Hays (9:00)

LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Tom Ben Lindley (7:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Open Mic w/ Lynette Wolfe (9:00)

LUX Josh Ross (5:00), Los Dos +1 (8:00)

MAGGIE MAE'S Birdlegg & the Tight Fit Blues Band

MERCER STREET DANCE HALL Open Mic w/ Patrick Murphy (7:30)

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

ROAD SHOWS

WED 11/25

Nahaya, Mastema, Extinction A.D., Black Fest, Havok, Dirty Dog Bar, Alexander Lewis, Andrew Luce, Empire Control Room, Mike Stinson, Hal Ketchum, Güero's Taco Bar, Greys, Mohawk, We Were Promised Jetpacks, Seoul, Parish, The Parish Festival, the Sahara Lounge, Highly Suspect, Bird Dog, the Scoot Inn, The Grundles, Sidewinder, James Bay, Cloves, Stubb's

THU 11/26

Los Rieleros, Los Huracanes del Norte, Conjunto Primavera, Revancha, Cuarto, the Coliseum

FRI 11/27

Joe Bonamassa, ACL Live at the Moody Theater, Loafers, Teenage Sexx, Beerland, Peter Wagner, Carousel Lounge, La Energia Norteña, Los Vendavales, the Coliseum, Tomás Ramírez, Jazzmanian Devil, Elephant Room

DJ Nixx, Firehouse Lounge, Judivan Roots, Flamingo Cantina

Julian Neel, Hotel Vegas

DAVI, Kingdom Nightclub

Reverend Horton

Heat, Johnny Reno,

the Bellrays, Lords of

Altamont, Mohawk

Mindi Abair, Rick Braun,

Peter White, One World

Theatre

Mike Stinson, Riley's Tavern

Shaun Martin, the Scoot Inn

The Monk, Triple Crown

Jennifer Sullivan, Water

Trough at Lone Star Court

SAT 11/28

Joe Bonamassa, ACL Live at the Moody Theater

Filthy, Beerland

Big K.R.I.T., BJ the

Chicago Kid, Emo's

Contrabandits, Flamingo

Cantina

Roughkast, Hole in the Wall

Skream, Kingdom Nightclub

Haunter, Mohawk

Zarni de Wet, Red Horn

Coffee House & Brewing Co.

Rhett Butler, Strange Brew

Lounge Side

Big Don, Strange Brew Lounge

Side

Daniel Eyes & the Vibe,

Stubb's

SUN 11/29

DJ Nixx, Dirty Bill's

L.L. Cooper, El Mercado

Everyone Dies in Utah, I

Survived, Astrixion, Lucky

Lounge

The Silvertones, Maria's

Taco Xpress

Zarni de Wet, Public Domain

at Whole Foods

Western Homes, the Sahara

Lounge

MON 11/30

Act of Defiance,

Allegaeon, Dirty Dog Bar

Darwin Deez, Charly

Bliss, Sidewinder

TUE 12/1

Mitch Albom, BookPeople

Tesseract, the

Contortionist, ERRA,

Empire Control Room

Stone Wheels, Hole in the Wall

DRI, Sidewinder

Greg Loftus, Stay Gold

WED 12/2

Psychomagic, Cheer Up

Charlies

Copeland, Eisley, We Are

the City, Mohawk

Sleepercar, Mohawk

Gaelic Storm, One World Theatre

Through the Roots,

Maoli, the Scoot Inn

Golden Solid, Summer

Fires, Sidewinder

See austinchronicle.com for Thursday, 12/3, and beyond.

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND PRINTED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS. ACTS ARE LISTED CHRONOLOGICALLY. SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE, SO CALL CLUBS TO CONFIRM LINEUPS. START TIMES ARE PROVIDED WHERE KNOWN AND ARE PM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS: MUSIC LISTINGS DEADLINE IS MONDAY MORNINGS, 9AM, FOR THAT WEEK'S ISSUE, PUBLISHED ON THURSDAY. PLEASE INDICATE ROADSHOWS AND RESIDENCIES. SEND VENUE NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, ACTS, AND START TIMES TO: CLUB LISTINGS, PO BOX 49066, AUSTIN, TX 78765; FAX, 458-6910; PHONE, 512/454-5766 X159; EMAIL, CLUBS@AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM.

AUSTIN BANDS: WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU. IF YOU HAVEN'T REGISTERED AND UPLOADED YOUR MP3S TO THE MUSICIANS REGISTER, GO TO AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/REGISTER. ANYWHERE YOUR BAND IS MENTIONED, YOUR MUSIC WILL BE FEATURED.

HOTEL VEGAS
1502 E. 6th Street

THURSDAY 11/26
Thanksgiving Toy Drive with
Que Pasa?, The Sister Rays,
Karaoke Underground,
DJs Spacecase and Sandwurm

FRIDAY 11/27
7pm: Kick out the Jams with
King Pelvis
10pm: Leo Rondeau, The Rated Exes,
Julian Neel

SATURDAY 11/28
Moving Panoramas, A. Sinclair,
Shivery Shakes, Vandaliers (Dallas),
Light Me Up

SUNDAY 11/29
uLOVEi

MONDAY 11/30
9pm: Comedy by The New Movement Theater
10pm: Rocky and the Wildcat,
Will Cope, Wildfitz

TUESDAY 12/1
Grivo, Dryspell,
The History Dept., Honeyrude

WEDNESDAY 12/2
Pale Dian, Slowpulse,
Ultraviolet, Lachane

Islands in the Stream



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THU 11/26 **CLOSED- HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**
FRI 11/27 **BONNIE & THE BOOTLEGGERS**
SAT 11/28 **SUEDE**
SUN 11/29 **SUNDAY FUNDAY** BOOK YOUR PRIVATE EVENT
MON 11/30 **OPEN MIC** WITH **RONNIE HALL**
TUE 12/1 **ZARNI**
WED 12/2 **KENNY McCARDLE**

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ONE-2-ONE
LOCAL LIVE MUSIC

WED. NOV. 25
BLACK RED BLACK 8PM
THE LAST WALTZ REVISITED 10PM

FRI. NOV. 27
GRAHAM WILKINSON'S UNITY SHOW + HAAM BENEFIT 6PM
SKYROCKET 10PM

SAT. NOV. 28
JIM SCARBOROUGH BAND 6:30PM
J WESLEY HAYNES,
BRAZILIAN SPACE PROGRAM,
ERIC BEE, AND BIG BRITCHES 8PM

SUN. NOV. 29
JOHN BUSH DOSE OF VARIETY SHOW & POT LUCK 5:30PM
SCRAPELLI & THE JOHNATHAN DOYLE SWINGLET 5:30PM

MON. NOV. 30
LISA MARSHALL BAND 7PM
DERRICK DAVIS BAND 9PM
STUPID DRAMA 9PM

WED. DEC. 2
Just The Tip Tuesdays FEATURING
WILL DUPUY & FRIENDS
and **THE DRAKES & GEORGE DEVORE** 8PM

WED. DEC. 2
JENNIFER ELLEN COOK 6:30PM
BLACK RED BLACK 8:30PM

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PATRICE PIKE
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THE SAXON PUB WILL OPEN AT 7PM
HAPPY THANKSGIVING EVERYONE!

Fri, Nov 27
MATT THE ELECTRICIAN
QUINCY HARPER
DENNY FREEMAN
6:00 - NO COVER HAPPY HOUR

Sat, Nov 28
SHELLEY KING
CAROLYN WONDERLAND
BOBBY WHITLOCK & COCO CARMEL
SEFO

Sun, Nov 29
THE RESENTMENTS
JOHN GAAR 7:30 - \$10
JOE CAT

Mon, Nov 30
LONELYLAND
8:30 - \$10GA/\$25 Reserved Seating
HOT NUT RIVETERS
w/ **GUY FORSYTH** **SHAWN PANDER**
6:00 - FREE HAPPY HOUR

Tue, Dec 1
CARI HUTSON
BAND OF BABIES
w/ **KACY CROWLEY & ROBYN LUDWICK**
DAVID GRISSOM
6:00 - FREE HAPPY HOUR

Wed, Dec 2
WALT WILKINS & THE MYSTIQUEROS
JOHNNY NICHOLAS
6:00 - NO COVER HAPPY HOUR

ADVANCED TICKETS ON SALE:
CHARLIE MARS - DEC 3, 10, & 17
JOE ELY - DEC 5

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TICKET GIVEAWAYS **t**

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AUSTIN INITIATIVE FOR GRAPHIC
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KELLI ANDERSON

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BLUE CABERNET COMEDY
NIGHT WITH KAT COMBS FREE

THURSDAY 12/3 AT 7PM
juegos rancheros
austin. independent. game collective. free.

SATURDAY 12/5 AT 7PM
The Burlesquerie presents: 2 shows:
"Tango 'Til they're Sore" 8p & 10p
A Burlesque Tribute to Tom Waits

MONDAY 12/7 AT 8PM
PROFANE ANYTHING BAND
THE SWIFT DRAG IN THE LOUNGE
BUTCHER BEAR & THE BLADES

FEATURED UPCOMING SHOWS:
12/9 NERD NITE 76: JELLYFISH, SEA TURTLES, AND DINOSAURS
12/10 BRIAN KREMER HOLIDAY SHOW & VIDEO PREMIERE
12/14 AUSTIN MUSIC VIDEO FESTIVAL PRESENTS:
AMVFEST AWARD WINNERS & PREMIERES PARTY
12/15 ASTRONOMY ON TAP ATX #14
12/17 - 12/19 CHRISTMAS W/ STANLEY ROY &
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SAT Nov 28 Austin Heat 10 pm

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Sat DEC 5 Lavelle White 9pm Blues Boy Hubbard 7pm

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Spiderhouse

THU NOV 26 CLOSED

FRI NOV 27 BALLROOM 7PM: TESTIFY: POTLUCK
10PM: *Durid presents:* DEVIN JAMES FRY & THE NAME SAYERS • STAR PARKS I AM ALBATROSS • WE ARE BLOOD BAYS

SAT NOV 28 BALLROOM 9PM: THE LIBERTY SOUL CLUB
Winter Formal
FEAT. DJs JLA COLD, JUST KYLE, AND MARTHA QUEEN

SUN NOV 29 BALLROOM & CHAPEL 12-7PM:
second annual **HORROR FOR THE HOLIDAYS BAZAAR**
BALLROOM 7PM: ELVES
presented by 1 Up Video & Black Widow Cinema

MON NOV 30 BALLROOM 8PM:
ATX UNCENSORED(ISH) FEAT. BRIAN GAAR, JOE BARLOW, AND KATH BARBADORO

TUE DEC 1 BALLROOM 7PM: POETRY SLAM
11PM: **AUSTIN MIC EXCHANGE**

WED DEC 2 BALLROOM 6PM:
BOSSBABESATX
10PM: **NOTORIOUS RBG BALL**
FEAT. ¿QUE PASA? • KB THE BOO BONIC PLEASE PLEASE ME • LESLIE SISSON & ROZIE CASTOE FROM MOVING PANORAMAS

CAFE 8PM: **GEEKS WHO DRINK TRIVIA**

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NEWS ARTS & CULTURE FOOD SCREENS MUSIC		
<p>FROM WEDNESDAY</p> <p>MOHAWK Löwin, Greys (9:00) ③</p> <p>NEWORLDELI Giulia Millanta (7:00)</p> <p>THE NORTH DOOR Last Wednesday Jazz Jam</p> <p>ONE-2-ONE BAR Black Red Black (8:00), The Last Waltz Revisited (10:00)</p> <p>PARISH Seoul, We Were Promised Jetpacks ③</p> <p>POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE No Bad Days Open Mic (8:00) ③, B.B. Morse (8:00) ③</p> <p>RAY BENSON'S RATTLE INN Jeremy Steding (10:00)</p> <p>REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)</p> <p>ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Herschel McFarland (6:30)</p> <p>THE SAHARA LOUNGE Jump Cannon, Bluesqueebox, the Parish Festival, Swing Jam (8:00) ③</p> <p>SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Blues Jam w/ Breck English (8:40)</p> <p>SAXON PUB Johnny Nicholas (6:00), Staid Cleaves (9:00), Brady Beal (11:00)</p> <p>THE SCOOT INN Bird Dog, Blue Healer, Highly Suspect (7:00) ③</p> <p>SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Live Band Karaoke w/ Encore, Uptown Drive</p> <p>SHOOTERS BILLIARDS NORTH Suede (9:30)</p> <p>SIDEWINDER The Grundles (9:00) ③</p> <p>THE SKYLARK LOUNGE Paul Klemperer (8:00)</p> <p>SPEAKEASY LC Rocks (9:30)</p> <p>SPIDER HOUSE BALLROOM Spideroke w/ Joey Pescado, Meg Bodi (8:00)</p> <p>STAY GOLD Bob Hoffman's Mood Illusion (6:30), Clem & Clyde's Whiskey Business, Junkyard Mongrels, Candler Wilkinson, Christopher Lee Rhoades (9:00)</p> <p>STELLA SAN JAC House of Songs Songwriter Exchange (6:00)</p> <p>STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE Chris Gage (6:00) ③, Wrenfro (8:00) ③, NYOB (10:00) ③</p> <p>STUBB'S Cloves, James Bay ③, Reed Turner (inside) (8:00)</p> <p>TANTRA COFFEEHOUSE Bluegrass Night (9:30)</p> <p>TELLERS Will Taylor & Strings Attached (6:00), Michael Fracasso (6:00), Gravy Brothers (10:00)</p> <p>THE THIRSTY NICKEL Rockhard ATX (9:00)</p> <p>THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Mayeaux & Broussard (7:00) ③, Thanksgiving Eve w/ Uncle Lucius (9:00) ③</p> <p>TRIPLE CROWN Rabb Rodriguez (6:00)</p> <p>TROPHY CLUB Swamp Bats (8:00)</p> <p>VULCAN GAS COMPANY Michael Garfield, the Mr. Clark Experience (9:00)</p> <p>WATER TROUGH AT LONE STAR COURT Chris Smith (7:00)</p> <p>THE WHITE HORSE Elsa Cross (noon), Thrift Set Orchestra (8:00), Ricky Stein (10:00)</p>	<p>THURSDAY 11/26</p> <p>BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Live Band Karaoke (9:30)</p> <p>BAT BAR Modern Day Midas (7:00), Gary Lee Cox Band (10:00)</p> <p>B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Kristen Gibbs (8:00)</p> <p>BEERLAND Izzy Cox (7:00)</p> <p>THE BLACKHEART Mrs. Glass (10:00)</p> <p>C-BOY'S HEART & SOUL The Soul Supporters (10:00)</p> <p>THE CAPITAL GRILLE James Polk Trio (6:00)</p> <p>CAROUSEL LOUNGE Closed for Thanksgiving</p> <p>CHUGGIN' MONKEY Aaron Navarro Band (9:00)</p> <p>THE COLISEUM Cuarto, Revancha, Conjunto Primavera, Los Huracanes del Norte, Los Rieleros (8:00) ③</p> <p>CONTINENTAL CLUB Whitney Rose (10:00), Dale Watson (11:30)</p> <p>CONTINENTAL CLUB GALLERY Kalu James (10:00)</p> <p>DANCE ACROSS TEXAS College Night w/ Live KOKE-FM broadcast (8:00)</p> <p>DIZZY ROOSTER Aaron Navarro (5:00), Sonny Wolf (9:00)</p> <p>DONN'S DEPOT Closed for Thanksgiving</p> <p>DOWN SOUTH RAILHOUSE Luke LeGrange (6:00), Dean Kelley Band (8:30)</p> <p>DOZEN STREET Jenny Parrott Show (7:00)</p> <p>DRISKILL BAR Robert Banta (6:00), Brennan Leigh & Noel McKay (8:00)</p> <p>EDGE OF TOWN SALOON & GRILL Rockin' Stevie Karaoke (9:00)</p> <p>ELEPHANT ROOM Jon Blondell's Jazz Orphans (9:30)</p> <p>FLAMINGO CANTINA Closed for Thanksgiving</p> <p>FRIENDS Blues in the Night (4:00), Conquistadors (11:00)</p> <p>THE GATSBY Open Mic w/ Adam Rodgers (8:00)</p> <p>GERALDINE'S Aaron McDonnell (9:00)</p> <p>GRUENE HALL Closed for Thanksgiving ③</p> <p>HOLE IN THE WALL Thanksgiving Potluck (4:00), Greg Mullen (8:00)</p> <p>HOTEL VEGAS Thanksgiving Toy Drive with ¿Que Pasa?, the Sister Rays, Karaoke Underground, DJs Spacecase and Sandwurm (9:00)</p> <p>LA PALAPA Relative Circle (8:00)</p> <p>LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Nate Boff (6:00), Alvin Crow (9:00)</p> <p>LUX Fred Spence (4:00), Jesse Armijo (7:00)</p> <p>MAGGIE MAE'S DJ Koma (rooftop), Charlie Murphy Band (10:00)</p> <p>MERCER STREET DANCE HALL Doug Moreland (8:00)</p> <p>PATSY'S CAFE Closed for Thanksgiving</p> <p>POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Happy Thanksgiving ③</p> <p>RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE Jeff Lofton (5:30)</p> <p>SAXON PUB Patrice Pike (8:00), Julie Nolan (10:00)</p>	<p>STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE The Coordinates (8:00) ③</p> <p>TRIPLE CROWN Everyday's a Holiday (6:00)</p> <p>WATER TROUGH AT LONE STAR COURT Cody Jasper (7:00)</p> <p>Z'TEJAS The Brew (6:00)</p> <p>FRIDAY 11/27</p> <p>ACL LIVE AT THE MOODY THEATER Joe Bonamassa (8:00) ③</p> <p>AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (6:00)</p> <p>ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE Andrea Marie & the Magnolia Band (7:30) ③</p> <p>AUSTIN BEER GARDEN BREWING CO. The Pettit Brothers (6:30), Rosie Flores (9:00)</p> <p>BAT BAR James Byron Parker (4:00), Morning Star (7:00)</p> <p>B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Davey Arwine (7:00), Ulrich Ellison (10:00)</p> <p>BEERLAND Triple album release party w/ Teenage Sexx, Loafers, Roar Shack, Toast Party (9:00) ③</p> <p>THE BLACKHEART Ariel Abshire (9:00), Summer Salt (10:00), Sam Pace & the Gilded Grit (11:00)</p> <p>BRASS HOUSE Candy DeClue Trio, Gianni Bianchini Quintet (9:00)</p> <p>BROKEN SPOKE Ben Rodgers (6:00), dance lessons (8:00), Gary P. Nunn (9:30)</p> <p>C-BOY'S HEART & SOUL Jitterbug Vipers (6:30), Soul Man Sam Evans (10:00)</p> <p>THE CAPITAL GRILLE James Polk Trio (6:30)</p> <p>CAROUSEL LOUNGE Brass Buckle 7 (7:00), Jake Lauterstein (9:00), Peter Wagner w/ Carey Bowman (10:00), Nick Ehrenstein (11:00) ③</p> <p>CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Cienfuegos ③</p> <p>CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Danielle Reich ③</p> <p>CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Mark Jungers Duo (9:00)</p> <p>CHUGGIN' MONKEY Dean Kelley Band (2:00)</p> <p>THE COLISEUM Los Vendavales, La Energia Norteña, La Maquinaria Norteña (9:00) ③</p> <p>CONTINENTAL CLUB The Blues Specialists (6:30), Ruby Jane (10:00), Mike & the Moonpies (12mid)</p> <p>CONTINENTAL CLUB GALLERY Robert Kraft Trio (8:30), The Lost Counts (10:30)</p> <p>CU-29 Samantha Lee & Ronnie B (9:00)</p> <p>CYPRESS CREEK CAFE Roxy Roca (9:00)</p> <p>DANCE ACROSS TEXAS Ladies Night w/ DJ Wade (8:00)</p> <p>DARWIN'S PUB Holly Nuela (7:00)</p> <p>DIZZY ROOSTER Chris Ray (2:00), Aaron Navarro (5:00), Aaron Navarro Band (8:30)</p> <p>DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters</p> <p>DOWN SOUTH RAILHOUSE George Mercado (4:00), Logan Ryan Band (10:00)</p>

Ⓐ ALL AGES VENUE Ⓡ ROADSHOW ★ RECOMMENDED

ALL ACOUSTIC
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GUITARS
MANDOLINS
BANJOS
UKULELES
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**Sunday, January 24 &
Saturday, February 6**

**Austin Convention Center
500 East Cesar Chavez Street**

**The Edge of Town
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ROCKIN' STEVIE KARAOKE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27
**JULES
& THE CHROME WHEELS**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28
BOMB SQUAD

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2
OPEN MIC with **GLENN COLLINS**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3
ROCKIN' STEVIE KARAOKE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4
RICH CROSS BAND

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Fri 11/27 **WRENFRO 8P
WONDERBITCH 10P**

Sat 11/28 **BIG DON 10A
(FREE KIDS SHOW)
IVY AND THE WICKER SUITCASE 4:30P
RHETT BUTTLER 7P
JIMMY LAFAYE 9P**

Sun 11/29 **GOSPEL BRUNCH 11A
ANNA LARSON 4P
JENNY REYNOLDS, DAVID HAMBURGER, AND
PETER KEANE 6P
DAVID DUCHARME-JONES 8P
OPEN MIC W/ KACY CROWLEY 10P**

Mon 11/30 **ELENA DIAZ 7P
LOS COAST 9P**

Tue 12/1 **DURAWA W/ 6P
BRUCE SPELLMAN
THE APOSTLES OF 8P
MANCHACA**

Wed 12/2 **CHRIS GAGE 6P
WRENFRO 8P**

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YEARS**
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DAVID GARZA
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DARLINGSIDE 

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10
JOHN GORKA 

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11
WOOD & WIRE
WITH DANNY BARNES 

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12
An evening with
**OKKERVIL
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BLACK SHEEP BOY 10th ANNIVERSARY TOUR 

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6
An acoustic evening with
**YO LA
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w/special guest
The Screaming Thieves

SATURDAY DECEMBER 12
Extreme Heat

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NEWS	ARTS & CULTURE	FOOD	SCREENS	MUSIC
FROM FRIDAY DOZEN STREET The Future of Air Travel (6:30), Narcotx, New Mystery Girl (10:00) DRISKILL BAR Danny Britt (6:00), Choctaw Wildfire (9:00) EDGE OF TOWN SALOON & GRILL Jul & the Chrome Wheels (9:30) ELEPHANT ROOM Tomás Ramírez Jazzmanian Devil (9:30) A EMPIRE CONTROL ROOM Flying Turns (10:00) FADÓ IRISH PUB & RESTAURANT DJ Hexum (10:00), Safety Patrol (10:00) FIREHOUSE LOUNGE DJ Nix (10:00) A FLAMINGO CANTINA A Night of Thankfulness w/ Judivan Roots, Phillipidon & Moe, Likkle Shanx, Dub Gideon (9:00) A GERALDINE'S Jai Malano (10:00) THE GNARLY GAR Bruce 3 & the Revenge (8:00) A GRUENE HALL The Peterson Brothers (1:00) A , Whitney Rose, Hayes Carl (8:00) A GÜERO'S TACO BAR The Bob Fuentes Show (6:30) THE HIGHBALL Waking Fable (7:00)				HOLE IN THE WALL Nick Allison & the Players Lounge, Starved Rock (10:00) HOTEL VEGAS Leo Rondeau, Julian Neel (9:00) A KINGDOM NIGHTCLUB DAVI (10:00) A LAMBERTS Paul Cauthen (9:30) LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Pissant Farmers (6:00), Adam Lopez & His Rhythm Revue (9:00) LUCKY LOUNGE Run Amok (7:00), Quentin Moore (9:30), Alice & Her Lil Darlins (11:00) LUX Jake DeCasper (4:00), David & London Band (7:00) MAGGIE MAE'S Michael Milligan & the Texiana Bluez, DJ Kenn (rooftop) MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00) A METROPOLIS APARTMENTS Downtown Live's Battle of the Bands (6:00) MOHAWK Lords of Altamont, the Bellrays, Johnny Reno, Reverend Horton Heat A , Right On! w/ DJ Captain Jim & the Heart & Soul Soundsystem (inside) (5:00), Spank\$giving 2 w/ the Ghost Wolves, Jonas Wilson (record release show) (inside) (9:00)
				THE NOOK Modern Day Midas (5:00), Mark Chandler Band (8:30) ONE WORLD THEATRE Peter White Christmas w/ Rick Braun, Mindi Abair (7:00, 9:30) A ONE-2-ONE BAR Graham Wilkinson's Unity Show HAAM Benefit (6:00), Skyrocket! (10:00) THE OWL WINE BAR Open Mic (7:00) PARISH John Baumann, William Clark Green (9:00) POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Ru Coleman (6:00) A , Guy Forsyth (9:30) A PUBLIC DOMAIN AT WHOLE FOODS Atlas Major (6:00) QUINN'S BAR Pete Benz (8:30) RAY BENSON'S RATTLE INN Matt Cline (11:00) REDBUD CAFE 3 Hands High (6:30) RILEY'S TAVERN Mike Stinson (9:00) A ROADHOUSE DJ RDWTR (8:30) THE SAHARA LOUNGE Nigel Bobby (7:30), Winter Bollywood Fiesta w/ DJ Vish (9:00) SAXON PUB Denny Freeman (6:00), Matt the Electrician (9:00), Quincy Harper (11:00) THE SCOOT INN Shaun Martin (9:00) A
A ALL AGES VENUE R ROADSHOW ★ RECOMMENDED				

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SAILOR JERRY PRESENTS LUCERO AN EVENING WITH FRI DEC 11	MERRY MIX mix 94.7 w/ ZELLA DAY DEC 17
ROBERT EARL KEEN'S Merry Christmas FROM THE FAM-O-LEE w/ NASHVILLE SWEETHEARTS DOYLE & DEBBIE SAT DEC 19	ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO EXPERIENCE: THE LEONARD COHEN INFLUENCE SAT JAN 9
JOSH RITTER & THE ROYAL CITY BAND w/ ELEPHANT REVIVAL JAN 14	7 KOOL GANG w/ THE NIGHTOWLS FRI JAN 29
GRACE POTTER AND HER BAND SAT JAN 30	NO CONTROL RADIO PRESENTS lamp of god w/ ANTHRAX, DEAFHEAVEN & POWER TRIP FEB 8

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FRI 11/27 WILLIAM CLARK GREEN WITH JOHN BAUMANN
SAT 11/28 DJ MEL PRESENTS RTC 52
THU 12/3 CAPYAC EP RELEASE WITH SPECIAL GUESTS ISHI, HENRY + THE INVISIBLES
FRI & SAT 12/4 & 12/5 C3 PRESENTS THE BRIGHT LIGHT SOCIAL HOUR
WED 12/9 C3 PRESENTS SCOTT WEILAND AND THE WILDABOUTS
THU 12/10 POKEY LAFARGE, THE DESLONDES ON SALE NOW
THU 12/12 THE MIDNIGHT STROLL FEAT. AARON BEHRENS OF GHOSTLAND OBSERVATORY WITH A. SINCLAIR ON SALE NOW
TUE 12/17 BLUETECH WITH PLANTRAE ON SALE NOW
THU 12/31 AN EVENING WITH EARPUNK ON SALE NOW

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WED NOV 25 Communion & Squarespace Present: HIGHLY SUSPECT with BLUE HEALER and BIRD DOG
FRI NOV 27 SHAUN MARTIN Seven Summers Tour
SAT NOV 28 The Armadillo Christmas Bazaar Presents: BAND OF HEATHENS 10TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR with THE TRISHAS
WED DEC 2 THROUGH THE ROOTS, MAOLI
THU DEC 3 TAYLOR & THE WILD NOW ("Gold Dust" Single Release) WITH YUMA, MCG
FRI DEC 4 MULLETS & PIGTAILS: A-TOWN GET DOWN, LOOSE LEAF
FRI DEC 18 HOOKA HEY, DUEL, SISTER FUZZ
FRI MAR 4 DIRT NASTY AND MICKEY AVALON: MARRIED TO THE GAME TOUR ON SALE NOW
FRI MAR 11 THE FLOOZIES with FLAMINGOSIS and SUNSQUABI ON SALE NOW

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SHENANIGANS DJ Trick (9:00)
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Radio Star
SIDEWINDER Illustrations, Carl Sagan's Skate Shoes (9:00)
THE SKYLARK LOUNGE Margaret Wright (6:00), the Soul Supporters (9:00)
SPEAKEASY Bonnie & the Bootleggers (9:45)
SPIDER HOUSE BALLROOM Devin James Fry & the Name Sayers, Star Parks
STAY GOLD Candler Wilkinson (7:00), Steady Legend (10:00)
STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE Wrenfro (8:00) 🍷, Wonderbitch (10:00) 🍷
SWAN DIVE On Delay, Alien Knife Fight, Dress (9:30)
SYMPHONY SQUARE Possum Posse, Doug Moreland (7:30)
TAVERN ON MAIN The Merles (8:00)
THE THIRSTY NICKEL Will Southern (3:00), Nothing Left (8:30)
TRIPLE CROWN Wasted Youth (6:00), Defiled Crypt, Athanatos, the Monk, Flesh Hoarder (9:00) 🍷
UNCLE GARY'S BAR Steen (8:00)
VOODOO ROOM Treble Soul (7:00)
WATER TROUGH AT LONE STAR COURT Jennifer Sullivan (9:00) 🍷
THE WHITE HORSE Roger Wallace (noon), Cajun Dance Lessons w/ Dancin' Austin (7:00), Gritones (8:00), Oeval Cajun Band (10:00)

SATURDAY 11/28

ACL LIVE AT THE MOODY THEATER Joe Bonamassa (8:00) 🍷
AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE Johnny Gonzales (6:00)
AUSTIN BEER GARDEN BREWING CO. Crooks (9:00)
BASS CONCERT HALL Bob Schneider & the Moonlight Orchestra, Tosca Strings (8:00)
BAT BAR Nathan Vanderford (12:30), Street Kingz (4:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Steven Castillo (10:00)
BEERLAND Bloody Knives, Filthy (9:00) 🍷
THE BLACKHEART White Label Analog, Clay Pigeons, Hannah Wolf (8:00)
BRASS HOUSE Pete Rodriguez (6:00), Boss Street Brass Band (9:00), Terry Thomas & All U Need (9:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Ben Rodgers (6:00), dance lessons (8:00), Dale Watson (9:00)
C-BOY'S HEART & SOUL Miss Lavelle White (10:00)
THE CAPITAL GRILLE James Polk Trio (7:00)
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Space Vampire CD release (7:00), Veleno (8:30), Math Patrol (10:00), Giant Kitty (11:00), Space Vampire (12mid)
CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Grupo Massa 🍷
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Daniel Driver & Friends (10:00)

CHEER UP CHARLIES A Night at the Roxbury dance party (10:00)
CHUGGIN' MONKEY Chris Ray (2:00), Will Southern (5:00), Sonny Wolf Band (9:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Redd Volkaert (3:00), The BlueBonnets, the Bellfuries (10:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB GALLERY Hilary York (8:30), the Lost Counts (10:30)
CU-29 Bruce 3 & the Revenge (10:00)
CYPRESS CREEK CAFE Texas Renegade (9:00)
DIZZY ROOSTER Mike V. (2:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Danny Britt & Red Dawg
DOWN SOUTH RAILHOUSE Dean Kelley Band (4:00), the Goodz (9:00)
DOZEN STREET Mojo Queen, Weak Creatures (9:00)
DRISKILL BAR Tiger Alley (9:00)
EDGE OF TOWN SALOON & GRILL The Bomb Squad (9:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Wayne Salzmann Groove Society (9:30)
EMO'S BJ the Chicago Kid, Big K.R.I.T. 🍷🍷
EMPIRE CONTROL ROOM AUMFest w/ Steel Grooves, Miss Genafire, Dirtyclean, Dans Le Filtre, Chris Cruz, Barbuto, Andrei Morant (6:00)
END OF AN EAR Broken Gold
EUREKA! Serafia (8:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA Kapsize Reggae, Contrabandits 🍷
GERALDINE'S Charlie Faye & the Fayettes (10:00)
THE GNARLY GAR Andrea Marie Duo (8:00) 🍷
GRUENE HALL Flat Top Jones (1:00) 🍷, Rob Baird, William Clark Green (9:00) 🍷
GÜERO'S TACO BAR Austin Heat, Bonneville County Pine Box (2:30)
THE HIGBALL Karaoke Apocalypse (10:00)
HOLE IN THE WALL Roughkast, the News Can Wait, Scorpio Rising (10:00) 🍷
HOTEL VEGAS Moving Panoramas, A. Sinclair, Shivery Shakes, Vandoliers, Light Me Up (9:00)
KINGDOM NIGHTCLUB DJ Andrew Parsons (9:00), Skream (10:00) 🍷
LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Bob Appel (6:00), Jason Roberts (9:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Bronco Jr. (8:00), Animals for Hands (9:00), MAXAM (10:00), Compliment Vices (11:00)
LUX Modern Day Midas (4:00), Gem Martinez Band (7:00)
MAGGIE MAE'S DJ Kenn (rooftop), Armadillo Action Figures
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Music4Music Showcase (6:30) 🍷
MOHAWK Wreaths, Haunter, Funeralbloom (9:00) 🍷
THE NOOK James Byron Parker (5:00), Eric Turner Band (8:30)
ONE-2-ONE BAR Jim Scarborough Band (6:30), J. Wesley Haynes, Brazilian Space Program, Eric Bee, Big Britches (7:00)

PARAMOUNT THEATRE A Braun Family Thanksgiving w/ Reckless Kelly, Micky & the Motorcars (8:00) 🍷
PARISH RTC w/ DJ Mel (9:00)
PATSY'S CAFE The Therapy Sisters (7:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Texas KGB (8:00) 🍷, Blue Steel (10:30) 🍷
PUBLIC DOMAIN AT WHOLE FOODS Mark Creaney (2:00), STVEN (4:00)
QUINN'S BAR Kristen Gibbs Band (8:30)
RAY BENSON'S RATTLE INN The Soap Boxers (10:00)
RED HORN COFFEE HOUSE & BREWING CO. Zarni de Wet (8:00) 🍷
REDBUD CAFE Don Reilly (7:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Billy Dee Band (9:00)
RIVER ROAD ICEHOUSE Sisters Morales (8:00)
THE SAHARA LOUNGE Cornerstone (8:30), Cinco Doce (10:00), Zoommouchi (12mid)
SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Matt Farrell
SAXON PUB Bobby Whitlock & CoCo Carmel (6:00), Shelley King (8:00), Carolyn Wonderland (10:00), SEFO (12mid)
THE SCOOT INN The Trishas, the Band of Heathens (7:00)
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Swagger
SIDEWINDER Grape St., the Dirty Heat, Toast Party, Toma (9:00)
THE SKYLARK LOUNGE Erin Jaimes (8:00), Austin Heat (10:00)
SMOKE N' HOPS Mark Henricks (8:00)
SPEAKEASY Suede (9:45)
STAY GOLD Classic Country Brunch w/ DJ After School Special (noon)
STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE Jimmy LaFave 🍷, Rhett Butler 🍷🍷, Big Don (10:00am) 🍷🍷
STUBB'S Wild Child, the Deer (7:00), Daniel Eyes & the Vibes (inside) (10:00) 🍷
SWAN DIVE Karmatron, the Please Please Me, Ruby Jane Smith, Jane Ellen Bryant, Supernomadic (8:00)
TAVERN ON MAIN Stephen Doster, Brian Standefer, Chris Searles (8:00)
THE THIRSTY NICKEL Public Disturbance (8:30)
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ The Cuckoos, Van Wilks CD release party (8:00) 🍷
TRIPLE CROWN Crystal Creek Boys, Matchsellers, Rock Bottom String Band (10:00)
TYSON'S TACOS Bianca De Leon (6:30)
UNCLE GARY'S BAR Aaron Navarro Band (8:00)
VOODOO ROOM Nate Grant (7:00)
WATER TROUGH AT LONE STAR COURT James Speer (9:00)
THE WHITE HORSE Two-step lessons w/ Two Left Foots (7:00), Dave Insley's Careless Smokers (8:00), Adam Lopez (10:00)
WORLD OF BEER After Light (7:00)

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11.28

CLOSED:

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SATURDAY
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FRI 11/27 10PM

NIC ARMSTRONG
+THE THIEVES
PRE-THANKSGIVING
ORGY
7PM: ETHAN AZARIAN
+ JEFF JOHNSTON

ANNUAL
HOLE IN THE WALL
THANKSGIVING
POT LUCK!

STARVED ROCK
NICK ALLISON
+THE PLAYERS
LOUNGE

SAT 11/28

SUN 11/29

MON 11/30

TUE 12/1

SCORPIO RISING,
THE NEWS
CAN WAIT,
ROUGHKAST
10PM

MATTINEE 4PM: SALLY
CREWE, RITE FLYERS
SONGWRITER SUNDAY:
HAYDON HODDOD,
ANSON KREXELER (OH),
WIL COPE 9PM

ARMADILLO ROAD,
ROGER WALLACE
10PM
ON THE PATIO:
VULCAN VIDEO PRESENTS
MOVIE MONDAY 8PM

9PM: STONE WHEELS,
DIFFERENTIALS,
KINDAHEART
7PM: BAT CITY
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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30 • 6:30PM

AUSTIN CAJUN ACES

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1 • 7PM

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WED, NOV. 25

6-8PM

TJ BONTA 8PM DANCE LESSONS

MIDLAND

9PM

THU, NOV. 26

CLOSED. HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

FRI, NOV. 27

6-8PM

BEN RODGERS 8PM DANCE LESSONS

GARY P. NUNN'S ANNUAL
AFTER TURKEY DAY DANCE!!

9:30PM

SAT, NOV. 28

6-8PM

BEN RODGERS 8PM DANCE LESSONS

DALE WATSON

9:30PM

TUE, DEC. 1

6-8PM

AMANDA WELDON HENSON

8PM

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WED 25

THU 26

SAT 28

TUE 02

KENT FINLAY'S SONGWRITER CIRCLE 9PM

CLOSED

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

DANIEL DRIVER & FRIENDS 10P

WRITE IT OFF:
ACCOUNTING TIPS FOR THE
SELF-EMPLOYED MUSICIAN 7:30
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SUNDAY 11/29

AMPED AUSTIN Bruce 3 & the Revenge (4:00)

AUSTIN BEER GARDEN BREWING CO. Weldon Henson (4:00)

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL The Drakes, Open Mic (7:00)

BAT BAR Andrea Marie Duo (5:30), Jo Hell Band (9:00)

BB ROVERS Open Mic (7:00) A

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tune Session (9:00)

THE BLACKHEART Black Elevator Comedy Open Mic (6:15), Shane Cooley (8:30); Inside: Young Readers (9:30), Holy Child (10:30), Josh Buckley (11:30)

C-BOY'S HEART & SOUL Imperial Starlighters (7:00), Psychedelic Soul Sundays w/ Hilary York (10:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Gamelan Lipi Awan A

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH McMercy Family Band A

CHEER UP CHARLIES #HoopDreams w/ DJ Girlfriend (4:00)

CHUGGIN' MONKEY John Prather (5:00), Chris Ray (9:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Planet Casper (3:30), Wagoneers (7:30), Heybale! w/ Redd & Earl & Dallas (10:00), Amanda Cevallos (12:30am)

CONTINENTAL CLUB GALLERY Jon Dee Graham's Lo Jinx Fun Collective (8:30); Dave Biller Trio w/ Mac McIntosh (10:30)

DIRTY BILL'S DJ Nixx (6:00) A

DIZZY ROOSTER James Byron Parker (5:00), Sonny Wolf (9:00)

DOZEN STREET Drunk Piano (8:00)

DRINKS LOUNGE Karaoke Underground (10:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura (7:00) A

EL MERCADO L.L. Cooper (6:00) A A

ELEPHANT ROOM Kevin Lovejoy Trio (9:30)

FRIENDS Blues Jam (9:30)

GERALDINE'S The Wheelwrights (9:00)

GREEN PASTURES RESTAURANT Jacques Vilmain (11:00am) A

GRUENE HALL CD Release of Slim Bawb (noon) A, Midnight River Choir (4:00) A

GÜERO'S TACO BAR NYOB (noon), Chicken Strut (3:00)

HANDLEBAR Copper Chief (5:00)

THE HIGHBALL Jules & the Jackalopes (7:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Rite Flyers, Sally Crewe (4:00), Wil Cope, Anson Krekler, Haydon Hoodoo (9:00)

HOUSE WINE Justin Landers (6:00)

IRON CACTUS MEXICAN GRILL & MARGARITA BAR Soul of a Musician w/ Erin Ivey (6:30)

LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Skyline Wranglers (4:00), Chickenshit BINGO w/ (4:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Astrixon, I Survived, Fear Me, King Me, Beard the Lion, Call Me King, Everyone Dies in Utah (7:00) A

MAGGIE MAE'S Alan Haynes

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS The Silvertones (6:00) A A

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz (11:00am) A

THE OASIS The Brew (7:00) A

ONE-2-ONE BAR John Bush Variety Show & Potluck (5:30)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Tessa Lou & the Shotgun Stars (4:00); Jon Napier Song Swap (7:30) A

PUBLIC DOMAIN AT WHOLE FOODS Zarni de Wet (2:00) A

RILEY'S TAVERN NPD's Songwriter Sundays w/ (4:00), Brent Michael Woods (4:00)

RIVERBEND CENTRE Shelley King (9:30am) A

ROCCO'S GRILL Eddy Maine (11:00am)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Invisible Sister (9:00), Western Homes (10:30) A

SAXON PUB John Gaar (5:30), the Resentments (7:30), Joe Cat (10:30)

THE SKYLARK LOUNGE Soul Sunday w/ Soul Man Sam (8:00)

ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH Kanude (11:15am) A

STAY GOLD Yachtrock Brunch w/ DJ After School Special (noon), DJ Feelin' Groovy (9:00)

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE

Gospel Brunch w/ Purgatory Players (11:00am) A, Anna Larson (4:00) A, David Hamburger, Peter Keane, Jenny Reynolds (6:00) A, David Ducharme-Jones (8:00) A, Open Mic w/ Kacy Crowley (10:00) A

THE TOWNSEND House of Songs curated by Troy Campbell & Mike Meadows (8:00)

THE THIRSTY NICKEL John Gorman (4:00)

THREADGILL'S NORTH Pine Island Station (11:00am) A, Sunday Brunch (11:00am) A

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ The Stapletones (11:00am) A

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic (7:00)

TROPHY CLUB Swamp Bats (9:00)

THE WHITE HORSE Conjunto Los Pinkys (5:00), Tomar Williams & the FCs (9:00), The Soul Supporters (11:00)

ZED'S Jeff Lofton (1:00)

MONDAY 11/30

BAT BAR Jo Hell Band (9:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Open Mic (8:00)

BEERLAND Rock & Roll Karaoke (9:00)

THE BLACKHEART John Jack Joseph, Bryce Clifford & Brother Superior (9:00)

C-BOY'S HEART & SOUL Presto Chango (6:30); Jonesin' w/ Georgia Bramhall (10:00)

CHEER UP CHARLIES Molly Burch, Marcus Brown, Little Mazarn

CHEZ ZEE Rich Demarco (6:30) A

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Chris Ray (5:00), Aaron Navarro Band (9:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB The Peterson Brothers (6:00), Dale Watson (10:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB GALLERY Church on Monday w/ James Bullard (8:30), Marshall Hood (10:30)

DIRTY DOG BAR Allegaeon, Dead Earth Politics, Act of Defiance A

DIZZY ROOSTER Amanda Darnell Trio (9:00)

THE DOGWOOD Curt Jones (7:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage

DOZEN STREET DJ Dance Night

DRISKILL BAR Sharon Bourbonnaise (6:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura (7:00) A

EL MERCADO Christine Albert's Mystery Monday w/ David Carroll & Bill Kirchen (7:00) A

ELEPHANT ROOM Jitterbug Vipers (6:00), Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (9:30)

EMPIRE CONTROL ROOM

5-1-Tunes Fest w/ Sofia Sanchez, the Risky Motion, R.C. Cat, Summer Salt, Hikes (8:00)

EVANGELINE CAFE Charles Thibodeaux & the Austin Cajun Aces (6:30) A

FRIENDS Dave Scher, Eric Tessmer (7:00)

GERALDINE'S Suzanna Choffel (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Bret Graham (6:00) A

HANDLEBAR Copper Chief (8:00)

THE HIGHBALL MatchMaker Band, the Nightowls (9:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Roger Wallace (9:00), Armadillo Road (10:00)

HOTEL VEGAS Rocky & the Wildcat, Will Cope, Wildfritz (9:00)

KING BEE Little Elmore Reed Blues Band

LUX Kenny McCordle (8:00)

MAGGIE MAE'S Monday Night Blues Jam w/ Michael Milligan & Texiana Bluez

MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John Wilson A

NASTY'S DJ Mel

NEWORDELI Open Mic w/ Kate & Katya (6:00)

ONE-2-ONE BAR Lisa Marshall Band (7:00), Derrick Davis Band (9:00), Stupid Drama (11:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Texas Songwriters Showcase w/ (6:30) A, WC Jameson & George Enslie (6:30) A

RADIO COFFEE & BEER Bluegrass Night (8:00)

RIVER ROAD ICEHOUSE Walt Wilkins (8:00)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Datri Bean (8:00), Jonathan Doyle Swingtet (9:30)

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SAXON PUB Hot Nut Riveters w/ Guy Forsyth (6:00), Lonelyland (8:30), Shawn Pander (11:00)

SIDEWINDER Charly Bliss, Darwin Deez (6:30) **A**

THE SKYLARK LOUNGE Open Mic Comedy Jam (8:00)

SPEAKEASY Open Mic w/ Ronnie Hall (7:00)

STAY GOLD Jay Moeller (6:30), Devin James Fry, Marijuana Sweet Tooth (9:00)

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE Elana Diaz (7:00) **A**, Los Coast (9:00) **A**

THE THIRSTY NICKEL The Goodz (9:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Molly J. Hayes (6:00), Meet Mr. Doomsday (9:00)

TROPHY CLUB Charlie Murphy (8:00)

THE WHITE HORSE Jimmie Dreams (noon), Chuck Fleming (8:00), Jesse Harris (10:00)

TUESDAY 12/1

BAT BAR Calloway Trio (9:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Light Horse Harry (7:00)

THE BLACKHEART Jeremy Nail (9:30), The Adventures of Wolfdog & Dirtboy (10:30)

BLIND PIG PUB Clint Manning (9:30)

BOOKPEOPLE Book signing & performance w/ Mitch Albom (7:00) **A**

BRASS HOUSE Jazz Inc. Big Band

BROKEN SPOKE Amanda Cevallos (6:00), Weldon Henson (8:00)

C-BOY'S HEART & SOUL 8 1/2 Souvenirs (7:00), DJ Super King Soul Sound (10:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE The Festive Years (7:00)

CHEER UP CHARLIES The Gents (10:00)

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Chris Ray (5:00), Sonny Wolf Band (9:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Toni Price (6:00), Uncle Lucius (10:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB GALLERY Ephraim Owens Experience (10:30)

DIZZY ROOSTER The Reen (5:00), Tish L & the Mizzbehavin' Band (9:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

DOZEN STREET Katie Battistoni (6:00), Bluesdays (11:00)

THE DRAG BAR Open Mic w/ Lucy (9:00)

DRISKILL BAR Dawni McCray (6:00), Brian Kremer (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Tony Taboada Trio (7:00) **A**

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith (6:00)

ELYSIUM Eurotrash (10:00)

EMPIRE CONTROL ROOM The Ansible, Skyharbor, ERRa, the Contortionist, TesseracT (5:00) **A**

EVANGELINE CAFE Michele Solberg (7:00) **A**

FIREHOUSE LOUNGE The Southsiders (10:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Atash, DJ Sunray (9:00)

FRIENDS Calloway Trio (4:00); Erin Jaimes, Clay Compania (7:30)

HALF STEP Mac McIntosh, Michael Hale Trio (8:30)

HOLE IN THE WALL Greg Vanderpool (8:00), Kindaheart, the Differentials, Stone Wheels (9:00) **A**

HOTEL VEGAS Grivo, the History Department, Dryspell, Honeyrude (10:00)

HYDE PARK BAPTIST CHURCH Austin Symphony Orchestra (8:00)

KICK BUTT COFFEE Danny Fast Fingers (5:30) **A**

LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Tecate & Taco (5:00), Fingerpistol (7:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE GLO Meetup (5:30), Xavier Gonzalez (7:30), Laura Lee Bishop (8:30), Lukas Duhoi (9:30)

LUX John Frischer (8:00)

MAGGIE MAE'S Adam Rodgers (8:00)

MOHAWK BYOV.inyl Happy Hour (inside) (5:00)

NEWORLDELI Acoustic Beatles Jam w/ the Eggmen (7:00)

ONE-2-ONE BAR Just the Tip: Will Dupuy & Friends, the Drakes, George DeVore (8:00)

PATSY'S CAFE Doc & the Medicine Man (5:30)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Tommy Eskes (8:30) **A**

ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Chip Sneed & Friends, Billy Dee (6:30)

SAXON PUB David Grissom (6:00), Cari Hutson (8:00), Band of Babies (Kacy Crowley & Robyn Ludwick) (10:00)

SIDEWINDER DRI (6:30) **A**

THE SKYLARK LOUNGE Dickie Lee Erwin (8:00)

SPEAKEASY Zarni (9:30)

SPIDER HOUSE BALLROOM Austin Poetry Slam (7:00), Austin Mic Exchange (11:00)

STAY GOLD Greg Loftus Album Release **A**, Songs in the Key of Ikey (Ikey Owens B-day) w/ DJ Giant Hornets from Japan (6:00), Sam Pace (9:00)

STELLA SAN JAC Freddie Steady KRC (7:00)

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE Durawa (6:00) **A**, Cari Hutson (6:00), The Apostles of Manchaca (8:00) **A**

THE MOCKINGBIRD CAFE Song Doctor sessions (7:00)

THE TOWNSEND Graham Wilkinson, Sarah Sharp

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Paul Walker Trio (9:00)

TOM'S TABOOLEY Blues Night w/ Eddie & the Eveready (7:30) **A**

TROPHY CLUB The Goodz (8:00)

WATERLOO RECORDS Ray Wylie Hubbard Book Signing (5:00) **A**

THE WHITE HORSE Bo Porter (noon), High Plains Jamboree (8:00), Josh Buckley (10:00)

WEDNESDAY 12/2

290 WEST BAR & GRILL Open Mic (8:45)

AUSTIN BEER GARDEN BREWING CO. Warren Hood, Kelley Mickwee (6:30)

BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Widgeon Holland (9:45)

BAT BAR Gem Martinez Duo (5:30), Jo Hell Band (9:00)

BEERLAND Madmartigan, Oro Cassini, Another De Sade (9:00)

BRASS HOUSE Brass House Jam

BROKEN SPOKE Tracie Lynn (6:00), dance lessons (8:00), Fingerpistol (9:00)

C-BOY'S HEART & SOUL Rey Arteaga (6:30), Snizz (10:00)

THE CAPITAL GRILLE James Polk Trio (6:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Soulphonics (7:00), Allen Knife Fight (9:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Jenni Finlay Free Workshop: Write It Off Accounting Tips (6:30), Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle (9:00)

CHEER UP CHARLIES Chakra Kahn, Zettajoule, Psychomagic, Lolita Lynn **A**

CHUGGIN' MONKEY Aaron Navarro Band (9:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Bee Caves (6:30), Painted Redstarts, Jon Dee Graham (9:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB GALLERY Matt Hubbard Trio (8:30); AJ Vallejo's SouthTown (10:30)

DIZZY ROOSTER Chris Ray (5:00), the Goodz (9:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Frank & the Honky-Tonk Doctors

DOZEN STREET Oscar Ornelas & the Hustle, Butter & Jam

DRISKILL BAR Dawni McCray (6:00), Bruce Smith (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE James Speer (7:00) **A**

EDGE OF TOWN SALOON & GRILL Open Mic w/ Glenn Collins (7:30)

EL MERCADO Cornell Hurd (6:00) **A**

EVANGELINE CAFE The Lobby Boys (7:00) **A**, The Peacemakers (10:00) **A**

FIREHOUSE LOUNGE Showcase & Open Mic (8:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Reggae Church w/ the Mau Mau Chaplains (9:00)

FRIENDS The Southsiders (4:00); Swamp Sauce, David Winsman (8:00)

THE GATSBY Tarik Hassan Trio (8:00)

GERALDINE'S Ben Ballinger (9:00)

GRUENE HALL The Georges (6:00) **A**

GÜERO'S TACO BAR KDRP Live w/ Clay McClinton, Sarah Pierce (6:00)

HALF STEP Canned Beets (9:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL The Parade Schedule, Ethan Azarian (7:00), Brand New Key (8:00)

HOTEL VEGAS Pale Dian, Slowpulse, Ultraviolet, Lachane (9:00)

LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Brad Boyer Band (7:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Music Madness ATX (7:00), 9pm Open Mic w/ Lynette Wolfe (9:00)

LUX Josh Ross (5:00), John Frischer Band (8:00)

MAGGIE MAE'S Birdlegg & the Tight Fit Blues Band

MERCER STREET DANCE HALL Open Mic w/ Patrick Murphy (7:30)

MOHAWK We Are the City, Eisleys, Copeland **A**, Sleepercar (Jim Ward of Sparta/ ATDI) (indoor) (10:00) **A**

NEWORLDELI David Pulkingham (7:00)

ONE WORLD THEATRE Gaelic Storm **A**

ONE-2-ONE BAR Jennifer Ellen Cook (6:30), Black Red Black (8:30)

PATSY'S CAFE Charlie Murphy Band (7:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE No Bad Days Open Mic (8:00) **A**

REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)

RILEY'S TAVERN Manzy Lowry (9:00)

ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Herschel McFarland (6:30)

THE SAHARA LOUNGE Hump Day Ska Night w/ Kabomba (9:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Blues Jam w/ Breck English (8:40)

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR T. Jarrod Bonta

SAXON PUB Johnny Nicholas (6:00), Walt Wilkins & the Mystiqueros (9:00)

THE SCOOT INN Maoli, Through the Roots **A**

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Live Band Karaoke w/ Encore (9:45)

SIDEWINDER Fire in the Kitchen, Summer Fires, Golden Solid (8:00) **A**

THE SKYLARK LOUNGE Paul Klemperer (8:00)

SPEAKEASY Kenny McCordle (9:30)

STAY GOLD Mike St. Clair (6:30), Bob Hoffnar's Mood Illusion (9:00)

STELLA SAN JAC House of Songs Songwriter Exchange (6:00)

STRANGE BREW LOUNGE SIDE Chris Gage **A**, Wrenfro (8:00) **A**

STUFFED CAJUN MEAT MARKET Nate Grant (6:30)

TANTRA COFFEEHOUSE Bluegrass Night (9:30)

TELLERS Will Taylor & Strings Attached (6:00)

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Bruce 3 & the Revenge (9:00)

TROPHY CLUB Swamp Bats (8:00)

WATER TROUGH AT LONE STAR COURT Chris Smith (7:00)

WATERHOLE SALOON 80H Project (8:30)

THE WHITE HORSE Elsa Cross (noon), Casa Loma Playboys (8:00), Sophia Johnson (10:00)

See austinchronicle.com for Thursday, 12/3, and beyond.



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KUTX
MUSIC 98.9

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The LUV DOC

Dear Luv Doc,

"Dating!"

A few weeks back I asked a woman I work with to go to a concert in San Antonio with me. The day before the concert, she said some friends of hers (a couple) were going to the same concert and wanted to carpool. I was reluctant to spend that amount of time with people I didn't know, but agreed anyway. It turned out to be a disaster. She ended up talking with her friends the whole time while I drove, and then after the concert they wanted to drive immediately back to Austin because they had a babysitter. I dropped them all off (she had met me at their house) and that was it. End of date. Not even a kiss. Am I wrong or was it really inconsiderate to ask her friends along on our date?

— Used

Let's start with the bad news: You failed the selfish asshole test. What you just described above is a tale of bitterness that has no basis in reality. This woman obviously thought enough of you to introduce you to her friends, and instead of taking the opportunity to get to know them better and perhaps ingratiate yourself, you chose to sulk about being left out of their reindeer games. Where did I leave my sad trombone? I know it's around here somewhere

What were you thinking? A trip to a concert in San Antonio was going to earn you a backseat hummer in the AT&T Center parking lot? That sir, is disgusting. Not the blow job – a blow job by definition is a pure and selfless act. However, anything that happens on AT&T property is (like the company itself) an act of deep, unsettling perversion – and I'm throwing the Spurs under that bus as well. There are some sponsorships you just don't take. Well ... unless you're the TaxSlayer Bowl, the GoDaddy Bowl, or Tostitos Fiesta Bowl ... whose board members' souls are already locked tightly in Satan's steamer trunk.

I think I can say with a high degree of confidence that the only thing that had a likelihood of getting blown on your San Antonio sojourn was your chances at another date with this woman. Think about that. All you had to do was not be a selfish dick for one night. All you had to do was keep an open mind and not let your expectations color your interpretation of events, but instead, you chose to put on your piss-colored glasses and play the part of Mr. Grumpy Pants.

Let me be perfectly clear: The evening you described sounds like a totally normal night with totally normal people – people with whom you have clearly not yet earned the privilege of sharing time. If for some reason this woman decides to go on another date with you – which would be a goddamned Christmas miracle – you need to take the advice of Captain Miller from *Saving Private Ryan* and *earn this*.

NEED SOME ADVICE FROM THE LUV DOC?
SEND YOUR QUESTIONS TO luvdoc@austinchronicle.com

SHOT in the DARK

CLEAN UP ON ISLE 8 - OLTORF HEB In the bulk foods area we had a Fun encounter. Hope you get back to me. sdaryl@hotmail.com

WHITE VOLKSWAGEN TIGUAN N. AUSTIN You forgot to pay at Sierra Dry Cleaners on Parmer Monday. (512) 592-0977

SAW YOU AT TRULUCKS ARBORETUM Saturday 10/24. Denim jacket, peach dress, GREAT BOOBS! Please contact me! 513212@tutanota.com

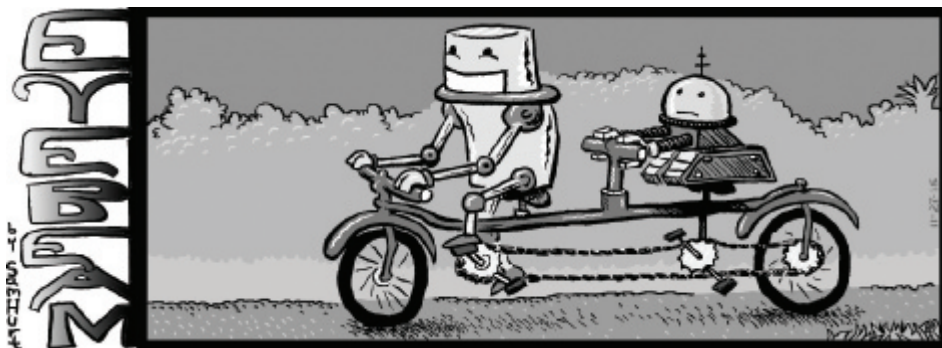
DARK HAIR GIRL SITTING OUTSIDE AT STRANGE BREW on Monday evening Oct 26th - orange shorts and a black and white shirt - charming, working on your iPad, your hair beautifully tied in a pony tail. Got out of my car and went in. My car was parked in front of you and when I got back out to my car you were leaving and couldn't catch you. Something from your eyes stayed with me. itsreal1@outlook.com

DID YOU LEAVE YOUR SILVER SUPERCHARGED MONTE CARLO COUPE IN OUR PARKING LOT? Thanks – it's a sweet ride.... but the Dept. of Defense sticker is freaking us out.

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COMICS



JEN SORENSEN

Thanksgiving Through the Years



MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS

By his own admission, author Neil Gaiman is good at changing diapers.

There's a scene near the end of *Citizen Kane* where Kane and his wife throw a lavish picnic on the beach in Florida. In the background, there is rear projection originally created for *King Kong* (or possibly the sequel), and the birds are in fact pterodactyls.

The expression, "Great Scott," comes from Winfield Scott who was the commanding general of the U.S. Army in the 1840s, '50s, and early '60s.

The volume of blood pumped by the human heart can vary from 1.3 to 8 gallons per minute. Over a lifetime, a heart will pump nearly 1.5 million barrels of blood — enough to fill 200 train tanker cars.

The electric eel is not an eel at all. Rather, it is a kind of knifefish.

Above is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the *Chronicle*, or email mrpants@austinchronicle.com.



EMPLOYMENT

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ACCOUNTING

ADMINISTRATIVE EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/ RECEPTIONIST

We are looking for an experienced Administrative Executive Assistant/ Receptionist to join a stable and rapidly expanding company.

jrunstad@wrightrunstadd.com

CUSTOMER SERVICE

HOUSEKEEPERS NEEDED IN LAKEWAY

Holiday Inn Express & Suites in Lakeway is looking for experienced housekeepers. To apply, please call 512-735-5555 and ask for Amy or Baruc. 512-735-5555
careers@hielakeway.com

EMPLOYMENT Tired of the daily grind? The rat race? Working for the man? Well, we can't help you with that ... but we can help you find a job where they have casual Fridays. Austin Chronicle Employment section. It's a start.

COMPUTER/ TECHNICAL

ENGINEER
GLOBALFOUNDRIES, an advanced semiconductor manufacturing & technology company, is seeking the following position in Austin, TX: **Principal Engineer Tapeout Engineering #110364:** Develop & deploy a range of Design Finishing, Boolean Layer & Layout Decomposition solutions & tools & full-chip Design-to-Mask architecture & flows. To apply, go to <http://www.globalfoundries.com>, US Careers, & search by requisition #.

ENGINEERING
Inovant, LLC, a Visa Inc. company, currently has openings in our Austin, TX location for: **- Staff Quality Assurance Engineers (Job#s 156489 or 156490)** to participate as a test lead across multiple Quality Assurance projects, meeting commitments, and ensuring that testing and Quality Assurance activities comply with internal policies and guidelines. Absorb and translate business requirements into functional test plans. To apply, please reference Job#s 156489 or 156490 when mailing resume to: Visa Inc., MS: M3-2NE, 901 Metro Center Blvd., Foster City, CA 94404. EOE

MULTIPLE SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT ENGINEER II Amazon Corporate, LLC - Multiple Software Development Engineer II positions available in Austin, TX. Job duties involve participating in the full development cycle, end-to-end, from design, implementation, and testing to documentation, delivery and maintenance. Requires MS in CS, CE, EE, Math, or rel. + 1 yr exp. or BS+5 yrs. Please send your resume, referencing AMZ1253, including job history, to: Amazon Corporate, LLC, an Amazon.com company, P.O. Box 81226, Seattle, WA 98108-1300. Amazon.com is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

SR DESIGN ENGINEER sought by ARM, Inc. in Austin, TX. Req BS in Elctrl Engr, Comp Engr, CS or rtd + 5 yrs exp in memry dsgn OR MS in Elctrl Engr, Comp Engr, CS or rtd + 3 yrs exp in memry dsgn. Know of cell & memry dsgn & devlp in adv tech (20nm & bynd). Exp w/ crcut/lyut in sub-micron tech (32nm or smaller), tech tradeoffs, dsgn for mfgabity (DFM) layout tech, low pwr circit dsgn, memry/prcssr modlmg & vrfctn. Know of Cadence Virtuoso (DFIL, Opus). Exp cdng, mdmg, or reading DRC/LVS runsets. Prog or scrptng exp in Verilog, Tcl, Perl, shell scripting. Perm US wrk authy. Aply @ www.jobpostingtoday.com Ref #79308

EDUCATION

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WEBSITE Check out more great ads online! **austinchronicle.com/classifieds.**

GENERAL

CAREGIVER Needed for basic daily assistance. \$10.02/hr. No experience needed, male or female. Call 512-697-8734.

FREE ADS Got a car you need to sell? Looking for a roommate? Want to unload that old refrigerator? Are you an excellent dogwalker? All you need to do is go online to **austinchronicle.com/classifieds** and post your ad for FREE. Make it stand out with pictures! Highlight it by making it a featured ad! You can even run it in print! Ads run online for 30 days, and are posted immediately. After all, immediate gratification takes too long!

LEFLEUR TRANSPORTATION
DRIVERS THAT LOVE PEOPLE Drivers Needed For Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Company. Responsible for transporting people from one place to another for medical appointments or treatments or other medical related reasons. Ensures passengers are respectfully and professionally treated and safely transported to their destinations. NO CDL REQUIRED! Must have held a valid driver's license for 7 years consecutively prior to the application date. Must have current Texas Driver's license. No more than 2 moving violations in the past 2 years. No DUI/DWI in preceding 7 years. Background check and Drug Screen required. NO FELONIES. Full benefits package available. The position starts immediately. NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED, we will train you. Day and night schedules available. **Late night shifts makes serious extra \$\$\$.** APPLY ON LINE AT: <http://www.lefleuren.net/Application.aspx> An Equal Opportunity Employer

EMPLOYMENT Looking for a new job? Have to hire a new employee? Check out the great job opportunities in this week's Austin Chronicle. If you would like information on how to place an ad, call 454-5765.

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS AT SBM SITE SERVICES! We are hiring for: Site Manager, Custodial Supervisor, Lead Custodian, Custodial Service Representative, and Custodians! Call (512)568-8932 for an immediate interview!

KIDS ENTERTAINERS Will Train \$10/HR - \$60/HR Must be Avail All Wknd Hrs & OWN Trans (18 or older) toll free 888-458-7247
AmazingTexasTwisters.com

MAILERS Paid in Advance! MAKE \$1000 Weekly!! Mailing Brochures From Home. No experience required. Helping home workers since 2001. Genuine Opportunity. Start Immediately. www.TheIncomeHub.com (AAN CAN)

PHONE ACTRESSES From Home Must have dedicated land line And great voice. 21+ Up to \$18 per hour. Flex HRS./most Wknds 1-800-403-7772 Lpserve.net (AAN CAN)

RAW VEGAN CHEF Amateur or professional. \$15 an hour. No criminal background and must be 18 years or older. Call 512-697-8734.

WEBSITE Check out more great ads online! **austinchronicle.com/classifieds.**

OFFICE/ CLERICAL

ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK Clerical person is needed from 11am to 3pm Mon-Fri \$400 weekly computer skills are a must need to be detail oriented possess good customer skills must be able to do small errands email kisserdonn@outlook.com

EMPLOYMENT Hire employees who are as smart as you are! Advertise your positions in The Austin Chronicle's Help Wanted section. Call 512-454-5765 for more info.

PROFESSIONAL

ATTORNEY Mid-Level Associate Attorney position with Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. in Austin, TX. Perform duties as lawyer in corporate law section, including advising public and private companies, private and equity firms and financial sponsors. Submit resumes referencing job code 1125 to Lisa Stockton, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., 2801 Via Fortuna, Ste. 100, Austin, TX 78746. Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. is an EOE.

GLASS/CURTAIN WALL INSTALLER Admiral Glass Company o Austin, TX Looking for skilled and experienced personnel to work on one of our large projects in the Austin area. Employee must be capable of installing curtain wall framing/glazing, installing glazed aluminum systems, loading/unloading and rigging, etc. Experience is required. Positions available (Glazier qualification is preferred):
- Apprentice (1-3 year experience)
- Journeyman (4-7 year experience)
- Foreman (8+ years of experience) 281-953-6655 nlindsay@admiralglass.net

WEBSITE Like me, and all you want is a 1973 turquoise Mustang Convertible? Try looking through our MARKETPLACE section at **austinchronicle.com/classifieds.** If you find it, let me know...I'll buy it from you.

RESTAURANT/ RETAIL

AM DISHWASHER Eastside Cafe is seeking an AM Dishwasher. Please email your resume to eastsidecafe@austin.com.

EASTSIDE CAFE SEEKING AM LINE COOK Eastside Cafe is seeking an experienced AM Line Cook. Starting pay is \$13.00 per hour. Please email your resume to eastsidecafe@austin@gmail.com, or apply in person between 3-5 PM at 2113 Manor Road.

FREE ADS Looking to hire a bartender? Have an apartment you need to rent? All you need to do is go online to **austinchronicle.com/classifieds** and post your ad for FREE. Make it stand out with pictures! Highlight it by making it a featured ad! You can even run it in print! Ads run online for 30 days, and are posted immediately. After all, immediate gratification takes too long!

HYBRID COOK Work big events & weekend nights. Must be dependable, outgoing, & a self starter. **www.TheHerosGyros.com**

SERVERS, KITCHEN HELPER & HOUSEKEEPERS Renaissance Retirement Senior living is hiring kitchen, servers and housekeepers. 11279 Taylor Draper Ln. 512-338-0995

WEBSITE Vocals? Check. Guitar player? Check. Keyboards? Check. Still looking for that magic drummer to make your dreams come true? They might be online...check out **austinchronicle.com/classifieds.**

SALES/ MARKETING

WOULD YOU LIKE TO WRAP YOUR CAR/VEHICLE Would You like to Wrap Your Car/Vehicle in an Ad for \$350

Weekly. For more information's do kindly get back to the Hiring Manager of the company by email: accounting@worldmicro.us 803-306-7330 accounting@worldmicro.us

LEGAL NOTICES CALL 512/454-5767

Application has been made in the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for Wine and Beer Retailer's On Permit Certificate (BG) and Food and Beverage Certificate (FB) by 1920 E Riverside Building D Ste D-140 Austin TX 78741. I, Tien Do, dba Pho Please, located 1920 E Riverside

Building D Ste D-140 Austin TX 78741 Travis County Texas. Managing Member of Pho Please is Tien Do.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Distiller's and Rectifier's Permit by Still Austin Distillery, LLC dba Still Austin Whiskey

Co., 440 E St. Elmo, Building F, Austin, Travis County, Texas 78745. Managers are Christopher Seal and Joanna Salinas.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit by De La Rosa Event Center, LLC dba

De La Rosa Event Center, to be located at 19000 FM 973 N Unit 6, Coupland, Travis County, TX 78615. The officers of applicant are Carlos and Irene Velasquez, managers.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a

Wine and Beer Retailer's Permit by CHH Café, LLC d/b/a Starbucks #20458 located at 1920 E Riverside Drive, Bldg E, Suite 100, Austin, Travis County, Texas 78741. Officers and Managers of said company are Clarice Turner, President/Manager; Michael Malanga, Sr VP/Manager; Sara

Trilling, Sr VP; Linda VanGosen, VP; Sophie Hume, VP/Secretary; Andrew Wolff, VP/Treasurer; Stephanie J. Meier, Assistant Secretary; and Susan M. Johnson, Assistant Secretary.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Beer

Retailer's Permit by CHH Café, LLC d/b/a Starbucks #9676 located at 6301 West Parmer Lane, Suite 401, Austin, Travis County, Texas 78729. Officers and Managers of said company are Clarice Turner, President/Manager; Michael Malanga, Sr VP/Manager; Sara Trilling, Sr VP; Linda

VanGosen, VP; Sophie Hume, VP/Secretary; Andrew Wolff, VP/Treasurer; Stephanie J. Meier, Assistant Secretary; and Susan M. Johnson, Assistant Secretary.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Beer Retailer's Permit by CHH Café, LLC d/b/a Starbucks #10617 located at 4450 E Palm Valley Blvd., Bldg. B, Suite 100, Round Rock, Williamson County, Texas 78665. Officers and Managers of said company are Clarice Turner, President/Manager; Michael Malanga, Sr VP/Manager; Sara Trilling, Sr VP; Linda VanGosen, VP; Sophie Hume, VP/Secretary; Andrew Wolff, VP/Treasurer; Stephanie J. Meier, Assistant Secretary; and Susan M. Johnson, Assistant Secretary.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Winery Permit by Austin Eastciders, Inc. d/b/a Austin Eastciders located at 4007 Commercial Center Drive, Austin, Travis County, Texas 78744. Officers of said company are Mark King, President/Secretary and Johnny Heiselberg, COO.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for Package Store Permit and a Beer Retailer's Off-Premise Permit by JI Greystone, LLC dba Greystone Liquor, to be located at 3424 Greystone Drive, Suite 100, Austin, Travis, Texas, 78731. Officers of said corporation are Daniel Ly as Managing Director.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
AUSTIN CHRONICLE
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO: LARRY DEAN LEE Defendant, in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause: You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your Attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this citation, the same being MONDAY 12/28/15 a default judgment may be taken against you.
CAUSE NUMBER: C-1-CV-14-011459,
BRANDI HICKMAN VS LARRY D LEE
Filed in COUNTY COURT AT LAW #1, Heman Marion Sweatt Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas, on December 11, 2014.
STYLED: BRANDI HICKMAN VS LARRY D LEE
NATURE OF SUIT: Personal Injury regarding Motor Vehicle Accident
Given under my hand and seal of Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk on November 09, 2015. County Clerk, Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 149325, Austin, Texas 78714-9325
By Deputy: /s/ A. M. PEREZ
Plaintiff Attorney:
ANTHONY HAYDEN BRIGG STOCKTON
812 SAN ANTONIO STREET SUITE 310
AUSTIN, TX 78701

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-15-002658
TO: AMBER MEYERS, Respondent Mother of the subject child, Baby Boy Meyers, and to all whom it may concern, Respondents; GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 53rd Judicial District, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the Original Petition in a Suit Affecting the Parent-Child Relationship- Termination Petition and/or Managing Conservatorship filed in said Court on the 6th day of May, 2015 and the Affidavit of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 7th day of May, 2015, against the Respondent Mother, AMBER MEYERS, and said suit being number D-1-FM-15-002658, on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In the Interest of Baby Boy Meyers, A Child," the nature of which suit is a request to terminate the parent-child relationship and/or name the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services or a suitable, competent adult recommended by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, or an authorized agency recommended by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services as Managing Conservator of the child, whose name, date and place of birth are as follows: Baby Boy Meyers
May 2, 2015
Place of Birth: Austin, Travis County, Texas
The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the Child's interest, which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the

parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity and the appointment of a managing conservator with the authority to consent to the Child's adoption.
Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Austin, Texas, this 20th day of November, 2015.
VELVA L. PRICE
Travis County District Clerk
1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 1748 Austin, Texas 78767
By: /s/ Kelly D, DEPUTY REQUESTED BY:
KASEY M. WHITE
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY
P.O. BOX 1748
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767
(512) 854-9662
State Bar No. 24042147
FOR TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES
ATTN: Beth McDowell (512) 854-9662

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-15-003184
To: HUGO ENRIQUEZ DAVID PAZ and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 201ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP. TRAVIS COUNTY STANDING ORDERS of ONEYDA DELCID BENITEZ Petitioner(s), filed in said court on JUNE 2, 2015, against HUGO ENRIQUEZ DAVID PAZ Respondent(s), and said suit being number D-1-FM-15-003184 the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF SEYDY MELISSA DELCID BENITEZ, A CHILD", the nature of which suit is a request IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption.
Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, November 17, 2015.
/s/ Velva L. Price
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
PREPARED BY: ELLIOTT BRIDGET D
REQUESTED BY:
SUSANA IVONNE CASTI VARGAS
812 SAN ANTONIO ST. STE. G23
AUSTIN, TX 78701
BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 377-1663
FAX: (512) 777-4902

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF WILLIAMSON
NO. 13-2961-F395
To: Tracy Hanson and to all whom it may concern, GREETING: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. YOU MAY EMPLOY AN ATTORNEY. IF YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY DO NOT FILE A

WRITTEN ANSWER WITH THE CLERK WHO ISSUED THIS CITATION BY 10:00 A.M. ON THE MONDAY NEXT FOLLOWING THE EXPIRATION OF TWENTY DAYS AFTER YOU WERE SERVED THIS CITATION AND PETITION, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT FOR THE RELIEF DEMANDED IN THE PETITION MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU. The PETITION TO MODIFY THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP OF TANISHA ROGERS, Petitioner, was filed in the said Court of Williamson County, Texas, on this the 24th day of October, 2013, against TRACY HANSON, Respondent, numbered 13-2961-F395 and entitled:
IN THE INTEREST OF AYDEN TYLER HANSON, A CHILD
The suit requests THAT THE COURT GRANT RELIEF REQUESTED IN PETITION.
The Court has the authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree dissolving the marriage and providing for the division of property which will be binding on you.
ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL of said Court at office, on this the 5th day of November, 2015.
LISA DAVID, DISTRICT CLERK Williamson County, Texas
P.O. Box 24, 405 M.L.K. Street Georgetown, Texas 78627-0024
By: /s/ Judy Tenneyuque, Deputy
ADDRESS OF ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER:
Attorney General of Texas
508 Old Austin Hutto Rd.
Pflugerville, TX 78660

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ADAM CANTU JR Deceased, No. C-1-PB-15-002057 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.
RUDOLPH HERRERA CANTU AND ALL THE alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed in Probate Court No. 1, Heman Marion Sweatt Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas, on November 09, 2015, an Application to Determine Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said ADAM CANTU JR, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.
Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.
All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.
If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on November 09, 2015.
Dana DeBeauvoir County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. BOX 149325
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325
By Deputy: /s/ B. HICKS

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF TONA HUNTER Deceased, No. C-1-PB-15-001757 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.
MELISSA HUNTER AND ALL The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed in Probate Court No. 1, Heman Marion Sweatt Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas, on

November 17, 2015, an Application to Determine Heirship & for Issuance of Letters of Independent Administration in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said TONA HUNTER, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.
Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.
All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.
If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on November 18, 2015.
Dana DeBeauvoir County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. BOX 149325
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325
By Deputy: /s/ M. LIMON

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF JEROME MARTIN, III, DECEASED, Cause No. 15-0890-CP4, in County Court at Law #4 of Williamson County, 405 Martin Luther King Street, Georgetown, Texas 78626.
RENEE S. MARTIN, Applicant in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 12th day of November, 2015, an APPLICATION FOR DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP AND FOR LETTERS OF DEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION of the said estate and requests that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said JEROME MARTIN, III, DECEASED, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.
Said application may be heard at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on or after the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from the date of publication of this citation, at the Williamson County Justice Center in Georgetown, Williamson County, Texas.
All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court on or before above men-

tioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF BARBARA JUNE SWENSON
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of BARBARA JUNE SWENSON were issued on November 17, 2015, in Cause No. C-1-PB-15-001958, pending in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to: LAURIE LYNNE SWENSON PICKERILL
The address of such Independent Executor is 244 Cambridge Drive, New Braunfels, Texas 78132. The Independent Executor directs that all claims against this Estate be addressed to: LAURIE LYNNE SWENSON PICKERILL
Representative of the Estate of BARBARA JUNE SWENSON c/o Nancy N. Scherer Scherer & Scherer 602 West 13th Street Austin, Texas 78701
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED this 17th day of November, 2015.
NANCY N. SCHERER
SCHERER & SCHERER
602 WEST 13TH STREET
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701
ATTORNEYS FOR THE INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES
FINAL NOTICE
The following vehicle(s) will be sold at public auction if not claimed within 30 days of this notice.
1) 2004 Lincoln Town Car
Stock: B510035
LP: No Plate
Vin: 1LNEM81474Y710258
Towed From: 8007 Gessner Dr Austin, Tx 78753
2) 2002 Pontiac Grand Am
Stock: B510066
LP: 466DAX (KA)
Vin: 1G2NF1E28C291291
Towed From: 14000 Renaissance Austin, Tx 78728
A&A Wrecker and Recovery, LLC
2963 Manor Rd.
Austin, TX 78722
PH: 512-670-7578
Fax: 512-479-7578

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES
Public notice is hereby given that Denver's Vehicle Storage License Number 0572754VSF to the owner of

the following vehicles/ vessel's or part there of that there are charges due and a storage lien is applied. If left unclaimed 30days after the start date of this notice they will be declared abandoned and constitutes and wavier of all liens, title and interest, and consent for disposal at public sale. The vehicle can be claimed at 2000 Ferguson Lane. Austin, Texas 78754 512-835-2258
Year/Make/Plate/Vin#/Amount
2003 Harley Davidson None 1hdcgp463k451325 \$404.90
Unk Chevrolet Monte Carlo none Unknown \$404.90

NOTICE OF MEETING TO FORM NONPROFIT CEMETERY CORPORATION
Notice is given pursuant to Section 711.022 (a)(i) of Texas Health and Safety Code that the plot owners of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Mount Salem Cemetery located near Sprinkle, Texas, in Travis County, Texas, will meet at 12:00 noon on December 19, 2015 at 9705 Cresswell, Austin, Texas 78754 to decide whether to incorporate. A majority of the plot owners present and voting at the meeting shall decide whether to incorporate as a not for profit perpetual care cemetery corporation and to convey the land to the corporation. If the plot owners vote to incorporate, they will select from the plot owners a board of directors to be named in the certificate of formation of the corporation. Plot owners that cannot attend in person may attend by connecting through the Go To Meeting web site at <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/396736021> or by calling +1 (224) 501-3412 and entering access code 396-736-021. Law Office of Daniel W. Nelson, 112 East Schubert Street, Fredericksburg, Texas 78624; Phone (512) 457-8003; Fax (512) 879-1871; Email dnelsonlaw@gmail.com, Attorney for Stephen Madison.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION
Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, BEN WHITE MINI STORAGE located at 405 E. BEN WHITE BLVD, AUSTIN, TX 78704, POND SPRINGS MINI STORAGE located at 13444 POND SPRINGS ROAD, AUSTIN, TX 78729 and MOPAC SELF STORAGE located at 12900 N. MOPAC, AUSTIN TX 78727 will hold a public auction of property to satisfy a landlord's lien. Auction to begin at 10:00 A.M. December 14, 2015 at BEN WHITE and then to proceed

in the following order: POND SPRINGS MINI STORAGE. Then to be followed by an auction at MOPAC SELF STORAGE. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Property in each space may be sold item by item, in batches, or by the space. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the following: BEN WHITE MINI STORAGE Maria Frias, Louis Holley, Martin Vasquez, Jose Martinez, Jyosh Jackson, Ariana Garcia, Jilma Palacio, Joey Hernandez, Desiree Paniagua, Cynthia Kerr, Feliz Ancira, Junior Campbell, John Tijerina.
POND SPRINGS MINI STORAGE Caldwell Warren, Cooper Chadick, Karen Culwell, Richard Delagarza, Cheryl Greenamyre, Ed Henderson, Melissa McGuire, Beatrice Ramirez, Stanley Randall, Tamara Richardson, Julie Rosales, Patrick Sewell, David Smilek, Samuel Snyder, Crystal Stripling
MOPAC SELF STORAGE Patrick Braun, Keith Gary, Javier Davila, Thomas Emerson, Ninfa Deleon, Amy Pacharzina, Kelly Affolter, Greg D. Gibbs, Harmony R. Teixeira
SALE ITEMS INCLUDE: power tools, tools, file cabinets, dressers, beds, vintage table top organ, golf clubs, dishes, end tables, tables, couches, walkers, wheelchair, paintings, massage table, luggage, IKEA shelves, curio cabinets, law equipment, TVs, vacuum pump, vacuums, punching bag with stand, stereo cabinet, 1990 Jaguar LTD, washer, desk, patio furniture, bikes, art supplies, grandfather clock, boxes and tubs.
Auctioned by: Kevin Wares TXL #16014

Notice of Public Meeting to Discuss East Austin College Prep's 2014-2015 Charter School FIRST Rating (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas)
East Austin College Prep will hold a public meeting at 4:00 pm on December 3, 2015 in the 3rd Floor Board Room located at the Southwest Key Programs Headquarters in Austin, TX. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss East Austin College Prep's rating on the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
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ON P.84

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LEGAL NOTICES CONTINUED FROM P.83

Austin, Texas 78741; wishing to avail themselves of the provisions of chapter 59 of the Texas State Property code hereby give notice of sale under said act and chapter to wit on **December 22, 2015, at 10:00 am** to conduct a public sale to the highest bidder for cash only the contents of the units rented by the following:
Tracie Russell: tool box, water cooler, generator, barricade material. Brian S. Brown: entertainment center, Television, totes. Moira K. Nieto: chairs, mattress, cabinet, boxes. David G. Moncada: Charcoal grill, weights, vacuum, couch, king bed, table, chairs, totes and boxes. Jesse Lee Scott: Refrigerator, microwave, gas grill, Misc. tools, Stereo and speakers. Steven Kyle Seigel :

Television, chairs lamp, 2 chest of Drawers, bed and frame, boxes and totes. Ani Lyn Mouland: mattresses, bed frame, mirror, box, trash can.
This property is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's Lien

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy landlord's lien. The sale will be conducted December 18, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. at Waters Park Self Storage, 12182 Waters Park Rd, Austin, TX 78758. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Cleanup and removal deposit may be required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw property from sale. Property includes contents of spaces are ICR, LLC, building materials. Questions can be addressed to

Ladell at the property,
512-255-5363.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy landlord's lien. **Sale is 09:30 am December 11, 2015.** Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash at the time of auction. Cleanup and removal deposit may be required. Seller reserves right to withdraw property from sale or not accept any bidder. Property will be sold in entire contents of each individual storage unit. Property includes contents of spaces of following tenants: Felicia Akhiany, Leva Ham, Hector Mendez, Keven Barnes, Dennis Dolch, Patricia Housel, Paul Everson, Craig Douglas, Jaicel Tobias-Gutierrez, Timothy Wendel. Property being sold includes the following:

Furniture, household goods, and shop tools, exercise equip. and misc. items. Contact Lockaway Storage 9910 Slaughter Creek Rd, Austin, TX, 78748. 512-282-78078.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 610 E Stassney Ln, Austin, TX 78745 satisfy a lien on 12/08/2015 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage treasures.com: Joe Harriger, Joseph Harriger

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for

cash by CubeSmart 10025 Manchaca Rd Austin TX 78748 to satisfy a lien on 12/8/2015 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage treasures.com: Jerry W Abrams, Jerry Abrams, Gerald W Abrams, Peggy A Foster

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 2220 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, Texas 78741 to satisfy a lien on 12/08/2015 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage treasures.com: John Villela, Whitney Cubilla, Matthew Pak.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers

containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 2201 S. Pleasant Valley Rd Austin Tx. 78741 to satisfy a lien on 12/08/2015 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage treasures.com: Lisa Scavella, Adis Garcia, Rachel Duaine, Rachel A Duaine, Rachel Ann Duaine, Armando Escalante, Sarah Luna, Marco Sevilla, Marco A Sevilla U, Don Willingham, Joe Bonetello, Joe Domenico Bonetello.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 1905 E. William Cannon Dr. Austin, Texas 78744 to satisfy a lien on 12/08/2015

at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage treasures.com: Alterik Ware, Dennis D. Fandrick, Dennis Fredrick, Jesus Salinas, Michael Beam, Adriana Lopez, Adriana Lopez Watts, Eric Jensen, Arthur Nunez, Charlie Diebolt

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 701 Goforth Road, Kyle, TX 78640 to satisfy a lien on December 8, 2015 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage treasures.com: Alex Munoz: VIN 3VWTD81H9WM147845, 1998 VOLK JXG, Antonio Munoz: VIN 3VWTD81H9WM147845, 1998 VOLK JXG, Tom Horn:

VIN 3VWTD81H9WM147845, 1998 VOLK JXG, Mary Jane Guerrero, Mary Guerrero, M Guerrero, Ryan Peralez, David Espinoza, Chip Kent, Virginia Gonzales, Virginia Gonzales

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 21400 IH- 35 Kyle, Texas 78640 to satisfy a lien on 12/08/15 at approx. 9:30AM at www.storage treasures.com: Ashley Krumnow, Edward Te Williford, Edward Ted Wiliford, English Rhodes, Lira Mickleson

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Monsters of Men * Jason Isbell *
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LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLISHES NOTICE, AS REQUIRED BY CHAPTER 59 OF THE TEXAS PROPERTY CODE, OF A PUBLIC SALE FOR THE PROPERTY LISTED BELOW TO SATISFY A LANDLORD'S LIEN. ALL SALES WILL BE CONDUCTED BY COMPETITIVE BID FOR CASH TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER AND WILL BE CONSIDERED FINAL. MORNINGSTAR MINI STORAGE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY BIDS. **THE SALE SHALL BE HELD AT 10220 Hwy 290 West, Austin, TX 78736, (512-288-0037) on December 7th, 2015 @ 10:15 AM.** UNIT 222, Christina Metlain: Couch and Chair, Misc. Boxes. UNIT 122, Kalen Slaughter: TV, Chair, Vacuum, misc. items.

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY State of Texas County of Travis

Cause: D1GN15000069
By virtue of an Order of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98th District Court of Travis County, Texas, July 31, 2015, in cause numbered D1GN15000069, styled HARRIS BRANCH

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION INC versus GARY G GILBERT on a judgment rendered against GARY G GILBERT; I did on October 30, 2015, at 10:00 A.M., levy upon as the property of GARY G GILBERT the following described real property: Lot 3, Block D, Edinburgh Gardens, Section One, a subdivision in Travis County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof recorded in Document No. 200500005, Official Public Records, Travis County, Texas of the map or plat records of Travis County, Texas. On December 01, 2015, being the first Tuesday of the month, between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., beginning at 10:00 a.m., at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas, I will sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the right, title and interest of GARY G GILBERT in and to the real property described above. Dated at Austin, Travis County, Texas, October 30, 2015. Carlos B. Lopez, Constable Precinct 5

Travis County, Texas /s/ By SENIOR DEPUTY DER-RICK HILL, Deputy Notice to Bidders: You are buying whatever interest, if any, the Debtor has in the property. Purchase of the Debtor's interest in the property may not extinguish any liens or security interests held by other persons. There are no warranties, express or implied, regarding the property being sold, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. Notice to Judgment Debtor: If there is any property, real or personal, you want to point out for levy in lieu of the above described property, you must contact this office immediately. Bidders shall present an unexpired written statement issued to the person in the manner prescribed by Section 34.015, Tax Code, showing that the Travis County Assessor-Collector has determined that there are no delinquent ad valorem taxes owed by the person. In addition, an individual may not bid on or purchase property in the name of any other individual.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF CLIVE A. LYNN, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Clive A. Lynn were issued to Pamela Ann Lynn, on November 19, 2015, in Cause No. C-1-PB-15-001963, now pending in the Probate Court One, Travis County, Texas, Sitting in Matters Probate. The residence of the Independent Executor is 4605 Goliad Lane, Austin, Travis County, Texas 78745. All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED November 19, 2015. WALKER ARENSON Attorney for Pamela Ann Lynn 512.327.4422

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF DELIA KAY (VERMEULEN) NICHOLS, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of

Delia Kay (Vermeulen) Nichols were issued to David Haskell Nichols, on November 17, 2015, in Cause No. C-1-PB-15-001942, now pending in the Probate Court One, Travis County, Texas, Sitting in Matters Probate. The residence of the Independent Executor is 4507 River Wood Court, Austin, Travis County, Texas 78731. All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED November 17, 2015. WALKER ARENSON Attorney for David Haskell Nichols 512.327.4422

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS Having Claims Against the Estate of Francis A. Morris, Jr., Deceased On November 19, 2015, letters testamentary as Independent Executor for the Estate were issued to Francis A. Morris, IV, aka Francis A. Morris, III, by the Probate Court No. One of Travis

County, Texas, in Cause Number C-1-PB-15-001824 pending upon the Probate Docket of said Court. All persons having claims against the Estate, which is currently being administered, should present those claims within the time prescribed by law to: H. David Hughes, Attorney for Francis A. Morris, III, Independent Executor 401 Congress Avenue, Suite 2424 Austin, Texas 78701-3711

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH SZOO, aka JOSEPH FRANCIS BILL SZOO, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Joseph Szoo, aka Joseph Francis Bill Szoo, Deceased, were issued on the 19th day of November, 2015, in Cause No. C-1-PB-15-001988 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Margaret Szoo

The residence of the Independent Executor is in Travis County, Texas. The mailing address for the Independent Executor is: Margaret Szoo, Independent Executor Estate of Joseph Szoo, aka Joseph Francis Bill Szoo, Deceased c/o Kuperman, Orr & Albers, PC. Attn: David I. Kuperman Rollingwood Center 2500 Bee Cave Road Building Two, Suite 150 Austin, Texas 78746 All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this 20th day of November, 2015. KUPERMAN, ORR & ALBERS, PC. Rollingwood Center 2500 Bee Cave Road Building Two, Suite 150 Austin, Texas 78746 512.473.4101 (Telephone) 512.476.4111 (Fax) dkuperman@koalaw.com

/s/ David I. Kuperman
State Bar No. 11766000

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF NANCY MAY KENNEDY, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. C-1-PB-15-001936, styled Estate of Nancy May Kennedy, Deceased, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, original letters testamentary were issued on November 19, 2015, to James Reginald Kennedy. Claims may be presented and addressed to the personal representative of the estate in care of his attorneys at the following address: Cowan & Associates, PLLC Attn.: Claiborne L. Cowan 1403 West 6th Street Austin, Texas 78703 All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 19th day of November,

CONTINUED
ON P.86

PARK & HOMER puzzles

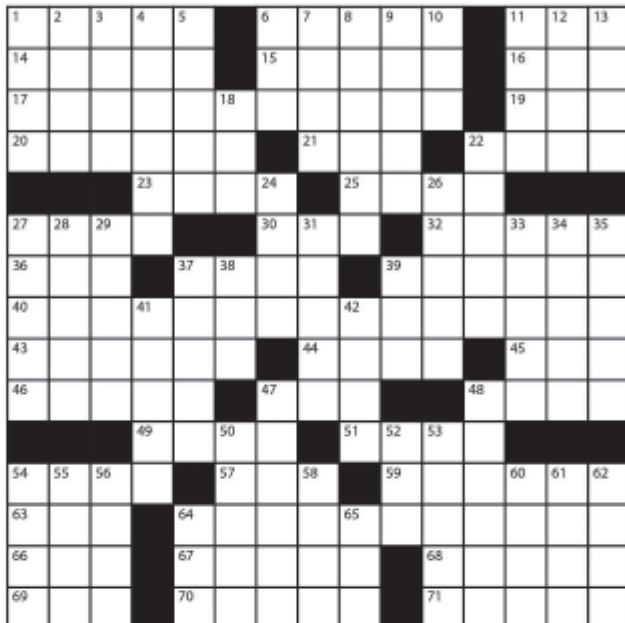
Sounds the same

Puzzle by J. Reynolds

No. 403

Across

1. Whip marks
6. Independent candidate Ralph
11. Smartphone buy
14. Electronic game pioneer
15. Snapshot
16. "___ sport"
17. Reassuring words
19. Dust remover
20. Pointless
21. Spanish uncle
22. Fill beyond full
23. Strong cleaners
25. Canadian gas brand
27. Mama ___ of the Mamas and the Papas
30. Radio settings
32. 747, e.g.
36. Bush spokesman Fleischer
37. "Othello" villain
39. Add spice to
40. Parting words
43. Most October babies
44. Gives a hand
45. "___ Rosenkavalier"
46. Tangle
47. Building add-on
48. Dynamic beginning
49. Airline to Israel
51. Cabinet dept.
54. The ___ of Avon
57. Tie the knot
59. What's left behind
63. "I'll take that as ___"
64. Third baseman for the Mets
66. Mil. titles



67. 2000 comedy "My, Myself & ___"
68. Doubleday, ___ (old publishing house)
69. Mayo, e.g.
70. Wilder and Hackman
71. "West Side Story" girl

Down

1. Homeless child
2. "___, Brute!"
3. Endure
4. Hiker's paths
5. Nonsensical
6. "Morning Edition" ailer
7. Take ___ (suffer loss)
8. Plains orphans

9. Cultural values
10. Decompose
11. Start of a magician's cry
12. ___ moss
13. Newspaper unit
18. Filmmaker Spike
22. Kind of panel
24. Herb in stuffing
26. Gushes
27. Olympic track gold medalist Lewis et al.
28. "The results ___!"
29. "The Lion King" lion
31. Fable's end
33. "All kidding ___..."
34. Observant one
35. Another 69-across
37. "___ ears!"
38. Tummy muscles
39. Landscaper's need
41. Guessed wrong
42. Mosaic piece
47. Nearing midnight
48. Director's cry
50. Cognizant
52. Drops on blades
53. F.D.A. guideline
54. It's soothing
55. Get the pot going
56. One of the friends on "Friends"
58. Eat
60. Prefix with culture
61. "Take ___!"
62. European erupter
64. Archaeological site
65. ___ Plaines, Ill.

SEE THIS WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTION AT WWW.AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/CROSSWORD

LEGAL NOTICES CONTINUED FROM P.85

ber, 2015.
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Fax: (512) 697-2829
E-mail: ccowan@cowanlegal.com
By: /s/ Claiborne L. Cowan
State Bar No. 00793558
ATTORNEYS FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF SHARON LOUISE DOBBIN, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Sharon Louise Dobbin, Deceased, were issued on the 17th day of November, 2015, in Cause No. C-1-PB-15-001943, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: James Michael Dobbin. The residence of the Independent Executor is in Travis County, Texas. The mailing address for the Independent Executor is: James Michael Dobbin, Independent Executor

Estate of Sharon Louise Dobbin, Deceased c/o HARDIE LAW Attn: Brooke Hardie 901 South Mopac Expressway Barton Oaks Plaza One, Suite 300 Austin, Texas 78746 All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this 17th day of November, 2015.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF CHRISTINE OWENS, DECEASED
The administration of the Estate of Christine Owens, Deceased, has been commenced by the issuance of original Letters Testamentary to Jessie Sorrells, on November 17, 2015 by the Probate Court Number One, Travis County, Texas, acting in Cause Number C-1-PB-15-001928, styled IN RE: ESTATE OF CHRISTINE OWENS, DECEASED, in which

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Court the matter is pending. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby notified to present them to JESSIE SORRELS c/o ROBERT E. BLACK, 2499 S. Capital of Texas Hwy, Ste. A-205, Austin, Texas 78746.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Boris Kolberg von Danielowsky, Deceased, were issued on November 19, 2015, in Cause No. C-1-PB-15-001539, pending in Probate Court Number 1, Travis County, Texas, to: Annelie M. Danielowsky. The notice to the Independent Executor may be delivered to the following address: c/o Melissa L. Harvey The Karisch Law Firm, PLLC 301 Congress Ave., Suite 1910 Austin, Texas 78701 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated the 20th day of November, 2015. Melissa L. Harvey Attorney for Independent Executor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Brigitte Eileen Kelly, Deceased, were issued on November 17, 2015 in Docket No. C-1-PB-15-001884

pending in Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to Richard James Matteson, Independent Executor. All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, may address them in care of the attorney for the Estate within the time and in the manner prescribed by law, as follows: Representative, Estate of Brigitte Eileen Kelly, Deceased, c/o Sal Levatino, attorney for the estate, 1524 South IH-35, Suite 234, Austin, Texas 78704. Dated November 17, 2015.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Dorothy Marie Mason, Deceased, were issued on November 17, 2015, in Cause No. C-1-PB-15-001907, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: John Scanlan Mason, Jr. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o: Brad Wiewel Attorney at Law 1601 Rio Grande St., Ste. 550 Austin, TX 78701 DATED the 17th day of November, 2015. /s/ Ann Lumley Attorney for John Scanlan Mason, Jr.

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addressed as follows: Dale Brent Hudler, Independent Executor Estate of JANELLE HUDLER c/o The Last Office of William H. Russell 11782 Jollyville Rd. Austin, Texas 78759 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Jean Ellis Bright Land, Deceased, were issued on November 17, 2015, in Docket No. C-1-PB-15-001949, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Lee Chambers Land. The address of the Independent Executor is in Austin, Travis County, Texas, the mailing address is: c/o Scofield & Scofield, P.C., 1411 West Avenue, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78701-1537. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 17th day of November, 2015. Scofield & Scofield, P.C. Attorneys for the Estate By: /s/ Shea Kellams

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JOHN PHILLIP DWYER, JR., Deceased, were issued on October 22, 2015, in Cause No. C-1-PB-11-000037, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: SLOAN DWYER LANDRE. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o: Steve R. Campos
The Fowler Law Firm, PC
919 Congress Avenue, Suite 900
Austin, Texas 78701-2155
DATED the 16th day of November, 2015.
THE FOWLER LAW FIRM, PC
919 Congress Avenue, Suite 1155
Austin, Texas 78701-2155
(512) 441-1411; 469-2975 (fax)
Attorney for Independent Executor
By: /s/ Steve R. Campos
State Bar No. 03730650
E-mail: scampos@thefowler-lawfirm.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Martin Wesley Holeman, Deceased, were issued on November 17, 2015, in Docket No. C-1-PB-15-001857, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Michael Wesley Holeman. The address of the Independent Executor is in Austin, Travis County, Texas, the mailing address is: c/o Scofield & Scofield, P.C., 1411 West Avenue, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78701-1537. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 17th day of November, 2015.
Scofield & Scofield, P.C.
Attorneys for the Estate
By: /s/ Frank E. Scofield

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Robert Andrew Carroll, aka Andy Carroll, aka Flyntt Mishagin, Deceased, were issued to Jerome Michael Chamkis on November 10, 2015, in Cause No. C-1-PB-15-001905, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas. Claims may be addressed in care of the representative's attorney, as follows:
Jerome Michael Chamkis
c/o Edsam M. Ingram
1601 Rio Grande, Suite 520
Austin, Texas 78701
All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED this 10th day of November, 2015.
/s/ Edsam M. Ingram
ATTORNEY FOR THE REPRESENTATIVE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Robert J. Tracy a/k/a Robert J. Christensen, Deceased, were issued on November 9, 2015, to Linda M. Tracy, Independent Executor. All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered under Cause No. C-1-PB-15-001869 in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, are required to present the claims within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims may be presented to the Independent Executor and should be addressed as follows:
Estate of Robert J. Tracy a/k/a Robert J. Christensen
c/o Law Office of Cameron

Graber PC
1300 West Lynn Street Suite 211
Austin, Texas 78703
Dated: November 17, 2015.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Thomas Rodney Parker, Deceased, were issued on November 20, 2015, in Cause No. C-1-PB-15-001775, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Terri Hetzler n/k/a Terri Duffy. The notice to the Independent Executor may be delivered to the following address:
c/o Barnes, Lipscomb, Stewart & Ott PLLC
Attorneys at law
Rollingwood Center
2500 Bee Cave Road, Building II, Suite 150
Austin, Texas 78746
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 20th day of November, 2015.
/s/ Barbara Lipscomb
Barbara Lipscomb
Attorney for Independent Executor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary of the Estate of Wendy Lou Daniel, Deceased, were issued on November 19, 2015 in Cause No. C-1-PB-15-001944, by the Travis County Probate Court Number One to Kayla Citrano, Independent Executor of the Estate of Wendy Lou Daniel. All persons having claims against said Estate are required to present them to Rose Cohen, Attorney at Law, 805 W. 10th Street, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78701 within the time prescribed by law.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
On October 22, 2015, Stephen Sanor Livingston, was issued Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Lana Sanor Livingston, Deceased, in Cause No. C-1-PB-15-001686 pending in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas. The address of Stephen Sanor Livingston, Independent Executor, is c/o Elizabeth Powdrill, Hopper Mikeska, PLLC, 400 W. 15th St., Suite 408, Austin, Texas 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law.
Stephen Sanor Livingston, Independent Executor of the Estate of Lana Sanor Livingston, Deceased
By: Elizabeth Powdrill, Attorney for the Independent Executor, Stephen Sanor Livingston

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for **Travis County Correctional Complex B130 Water Heaters/Softeners Replacement (IFB No. B1510-002-JH)**, a Project consisting primarily of Water Softener/Heater Replacement, will be received electronically through www.bidsync.com. Bids will be accepted until **2:00 PM. CST. on December 2, 2015**, then publicly opened and read aloud. Travis County will also accept paper bids received by Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, marked **"Sealed Bid: Travis County Correctional Complex B130 Water Heaters/Softeners Replacement (IFB No. B1510-002-JH)"** at the Travis County Purchasing Office, 700 Lavaca Street, Ste. 800, Austin, TX 78701. Note: The Time-Date Stamp Clock located at the front counter of the Travis County Purchasing Office will serve as the OFFICIAL CLOCK for the purpose of verifying the date and time of receipt of paper bids.
You may print the Plans and

Specifications through www.bidsync.com. In the event of a large file size, please be patient when downloading or viewing. For any issues, please contact BidSync Support Services at (800) 990-9339 and reference the IFB number listed above. Hard copies (printed) of Plans and Specifications may also be obtained from the Travis County Purchasing Office for a refundable deposit of \$100.00 in the form of a cashier's check, money order, or company check payable to "Travis County." The deposit will be refunded if the Plans and Specifications are returned in good condition within 21 calendar days of the bid opening. In addition, Plans and Specifications will be made available for viewing free of charge at various Austin-area Plan Rooms.
A bid security in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid amount will be required. **IF A COPY OF THE BID SECURITY IS SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH WWW.BIDSYNC.COM, AN ORIGINAL AND ONE COPY WILL BE DUE (BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS) ONE BUSINESS DAY AFTER THE BID OPENING DATE.** Payments will be made for completed work in progressive payments with the County retaining five percent (5%) of each payment until final acceptance of the Project. Payments will be made by check. A Payment Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$25,000. A Performance Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$100,000. Bidders should use lump sum pricing.
Project performance period is 90 calendar days. IF THE CONTRACTOR FAILS TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT IN THE WORKING DAYS SPECIFIED, LIQUIDATED DAMAGES OF \$450.00 PER DAY OF DELAY WILL BE ASSESSED.
Historically Underutilized Businesses, including Contractors, Subcontractors, and Suppliers, are encouraged to participate in this project consistent with the goals of the Travis County Commissioners Court. Contractors will be required to comply with all applicable Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulations, and with all Federal, State, and local regulations for construction safety and health standards. The successful bidder must commence work upon issuance by County of a written Notice to Proceed. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in the bids received. Bids may not be withdrawn for ninety (90) calendar days after the date on which they are opened.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO BIDDERS TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:
1. Door and Window Repair Services, Time and Materials, 1510-007-SC
Opens: November 30, 2015 @ 10:30 a.m.
2. Nitrile Exam Gloves, 1510-001-SC
Opens: November 30, 2015 @ 11:00 a.m.
3. Elevator Maintenance Services, B1511-006-LD
Opens: December 14, 2015 @ 2:00 p.m.
AN OPTIONAL PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 3, 2015 @ 1:00 PM., AT TRAVIS COUNTY PURCHASING OFFICE, 700 LAVACA ST., SUITE 800, AUSTIN, TX 78701
Bids should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County

Purchasing Agent, 700 Lavaca Street, Suite 800, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Specifications can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Bidders should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payments may be made by check. The successful bidder shall be required to furnish a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

PUBLIC NOTICE THE STATE OF TEXAS
THE COUNTY OF TRAVIS
To those indebted to or holding claims against the ESTATE OF ANNA P. GALLOPS, Deceased: The undersigned Independent Executor of the ESTATE OF ANNA P. GALLOPS, Deceased, of Travis County, Texas, in Probate Cause C-1-PB-15-001807 on November 17, 2015, hereby notifies all persons indebted to said Estate to make payment, and those having legal claims against said Estate to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law at the address below. Dated this November 18, 2015, Mary Anne Best, Independent Executor of the ESTATE OF ANNA P. GALLOPS, Deceased, c/o MARILYN G. MILLER, Attorney at Law, P.O. Box 917, Dripping Springs, Texas 78620.

TRAVIS COUNTY ONLINE AUCTION: SURPLUS PROPERTY
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A VARIETY OF ITEMS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR BIDS. VISIT WWW.RENEBATES.COM FOR A LIST OF ALL ITEMS, LOCATIONS, AND TIMES FOR

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT DAN ROLLIE AT (512) 854-6459 OR KENT HUBBARD AT (512) 854-6458.

TRAVIS COUNTY PUBLIC AUCTION:
SURPLUS PROPERTY
MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015: 10AM
TRAVIS COUNTY WAREHOUSE
7811 BURLESON-MANOR ROAD, MANOR, TEXAS
• A VARIETY OF LAWN EQUIPMENT, TOOLS, ELECTRONICS, OFFICE/HOME FURNITURE, AND MUCH MORE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR BIDS.
• VIEWING OF ITEMS WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015 AT 8:00 AM, UNTIL TIME OF AUCTION, ALL ITEMS SOLD AS IS, WHERE IS, BUYERS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROPERTY AS SOON AS DEAL IS CONCLUDED. BUYERS MUST REMOVE PROPERTY BY 4:00 PM, ON THE DAY OF THE AUCTION, ALL BIDDERS ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER PRIOR TO AUCTION, ALL PURCHASES MUST BE SETTLED AT END OF SALE, BUYER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REMOVAL OF PROPERTY FROM AUCTION SIGHT. TRAVIS COUNTY EMPLOYEES AND FAMILY ARE PERMITTED TO BID.
• FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT DAN ROLLIE AT (512) 854-6459 OR KENT HUBBARD AT (512) 854-6458.
DRIVING DIRECTIONS: TAKE HWY 71 (BEN WHITE BLVD.) INTO DEL VALLE, TURN LEFT AT HWY 973, TURN RIGHT ON HWY 969, TRAVEL 5 MILES AND TURN LEFT ON BURLESON-MANOR ROAD, TRAVEL 1 MILE AND TURN RIGHT AT COUNTY WAREHOUSE.
GASTON & SHEEHAN AUCTIONEERS, TXL #6497

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Brezсны for November 27-December 3

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): From the dawn of civilization until 1995, humans cataloged about 900 comets in our solar system. But since then, we have expanded that tally by over 3,000. Most of the recent discoveries have been made not by professional astronomers, but by laypersons, including two 13-year-olds. They have used the Internet to access images from the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory satellite placed in orbit by NASA and the European Space Agency. After analyzing the astrological omens, I expect you Sagittarians to enjoy a similar run of amateur success. So trust your rookie instincts. Feed your innocent curiosity. Ride your raw enthusiasm.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Whether or not you are literally a student enrolled in school, I suspect you will soon be given a final exam. It may not happen in a classroom or require you to write responses to questions. The exam will more likely be administered by life in the course of your daily challenges. The material you'll be tested on will mostly include the lessons you have been studying since your last birthday. But there will also be at least one section that deals with a subject you've been wrestling with since early in your life – and maybe even a riddle from before you were born. Since you have free will, Capricorn, you can refuse to take the exam. But I hope you won't. The more enthusiastic you are about accepting its challenge, the more likely it is that you'll do well.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): For \$70,000 per night, you can rent the entire country of Liechtenstein for your big party. The price includes the right to rename the streets while you're there. You can also create a temporary currency with a likeness of you on the bills, have a giant rendition of your favorite image carved into the snow on a mountainside, and preside over a festive medieval-style parade. Given your current astrological omens, I suggest you consider the possibility. If that's too extravagant, I hope you will at least gather your legion of best friends for the Blowout Bash of the Decade. It's time, in my opinion, to explore the mysteries of vivid and vigorous conviviality.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Are you available to benefit from a thunderbolt healing? Would you consider wading into a maelstrom if you knew it was a breakthrough in disguise? Do you have enough faith to harvest an epiphany that begins as an uproar? Weirdly lucky phenomena like these are on tap if you have the courage to ask for overdue transformations. Your blind spots and sore places are being targeted by life's fierce tenderness. All you have to do is say, "Yes, I'm ready."

ARIES (March 21-April 19): "We are torn between nostalgia for the familiar and an urge for the foreign and strange," wrote novelist Carson McCullers. "As often as not, we are homesick most for the places we have never known." I'm guessing that these days you're feeling that kind of homesickness, Aries. The people and places that usually comfort you don't have their customary power. The experiences you typically seek out to strengthen your stability just aren't having that effect. The proper response, in my opinion, is to go in quest of exotic and experimental stimuli. In ways you may not yet be able to imagine, they can provide the grounding you need. They will steady your nerves and bolster your courage.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The Pekingese is a breed of dog that has been around for over 2,000 years. In ancient China, it was beloved by Buddhist monks and emperors' families. Here's the legend of its origin: A tiny marmoset and huge lion fell in love with each other, but the contrast in their sizes made union impossible. Then the gods intervened, using magic to make them the same size. Out of the creatures' consummated passion, the first Pekingese was born. I think this myth can serve as inspiration for you, Taurus. Amazingly, you may soon find a way to blend and even synergize two elements that are ostensibly quite different. Who knows? You may even get some divine help.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Author Virginia Woolf wrote this message to a dear ally: "I sincerely hope I'll never fathom you. You're mystical, serene, intriguing: you enclose such charm within you. The luster of your presence bewitches me ... the whole thing is very splendid and voluptuous and absurd." I hope you will have good reason to whisper sweet things like that in the coming weeks, Gemini. You're in the Season of Togetherness, which is a favorable time to seek and cultivate interesting kinds of intimacy. If there is no one to whom you can sincerely deliver a memo like Woolf's, search for such a person.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Some people are so attached to wearing a favorite ring on one of their fingers that they never take it off. They love the beauty and endearment it evokes. In rare cases, years go by and their ring finger grows thicker. Blood flow is constricted. Discomfort sets in. And they can't remove their precious jewelry with the lubrication provided by a little olive oil or soap and water. They need the assistance of a jeweler who uses a small saw and a protective sheath to cut away the ring. I suspect this may be an apt metaphor for a certain situation in your life, Cancerian. Is it? Do you wonder if you should free yourself from a pretty or sentimental constriction that you have outgrown? If so, get help.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "Most human beings have an almost infinite capacity for taking things for granted," wrote Leo author Aldous Huxley. That's the bad news. The good news is that in the coming weeks you are less likely to take things for granted than you have been in a long time. Happily, it's not because your familiar pleasures and sources of stability are in jeopardy. Rather, it's because you have become more deeply connected to the core of your life energy. You have a vivid appreciation of what sustains you. Your assignment: Be alert for the eternal as it wells up out of the mundane.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): In their quest to collect nectar, honeybees are attuned to the importance of proper timing. Even if flowering plants are abundant, the quality and quantity of the nectar that's available vary with the weather, season, and hour of the day. For example, dandelions may offer their peak blessings at 9am, cornflowers in late morning, and clover in mid-afternoon. I urge you to be equally sensitive to the sources where you can obtain nourishment, Virgo. Arrange your schedule so you consistently seek to gather what you need at the right time and place.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Are you willing to dedicate yourself fully to a game whose rules are constantly mutating? Are you resourceful enough to keep playing at a high level even if some of the other players don't have as much integrity and commitment as you? Do you have confidence in your ability to detect and adjust to ever-shifting alliances? Will the game still engage your interest if you discover that the rewards are different from what you thought they were? If you can answer yes to these questions, by all means jump all the way into the complicated fun!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): I suspect your body has been unusually healthy and vigorous lately. Is that true? If so, figure out why. Have you been taking better care of yourself? Have there been lucky accidents or serendipitous innovations on which you've been capitalizing? Make these new trends a permanent part of your routine. Now I'll make a similar observation about your psychological well-being. It also seems to have been extra strong recently. Why? Has your attitude improved in such a way as to generate more positive emotions? Have there been fluky breakthroughs that unleashed unexpected surges of hope and good cheer? Make these new trends a permanent part of your routine.

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Brezсны's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 877/873-4888 or 900/950-7700.



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